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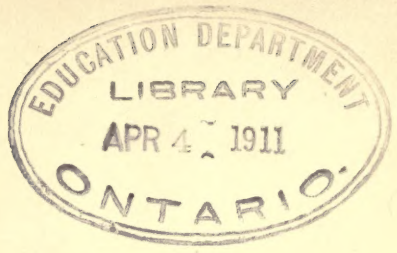
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KING EDWARD VII  
HIS LIFE AND REIGN











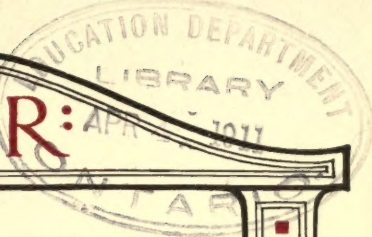


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KING EDWARD AT THE TIME OF HIS MARRIAGE



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# KING EDWARD VII

HIS LIFE & REIGN

*The Record of  
a Noble Career*

By

**EDGAR SANDERSON M.A.**

*Author of "The British Empire at Home and Abroad"*

and

**LEWIS MELVILLE**

*Author of "Life of Thackeray" &c.*

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# KING EDWARD VII

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## CHAPTER IX

### MARRIAGE

1863

When the Prince attained his full age, the time had come for taking his seat in the House of Peers. This event took place at an afternoon sitting of the House on February 5, 1863, the day on which the Parliamentary session was opened. The occasion was one of historical interest, seeing that over three-quarters of a century had elapsed since a Prince of Wales, the eldest son of George the Third, had played the chief part in such a ceremony. A unique feature on this day was that two Archbishops (Dr. Longley, of Canterbury, and Dr. Thomson, of York) also took their seats at the evening sitting. A brilliant company of peeresses and other ladies, including the Prince's relatives, the Duchess and Princess Mary of Cambridge, was present, when a procession entered the House from the Prince's Chamber, and advanced slowly up the floor. The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod led the way. This official, we may remark, is the principal usher of the court and kingdom, in constant attendance on the House of Lords, from whom it is part of his duty to carry messages and summonses to the House of Commons, always bearing the black rod which is the ensign of his office. He is also one of the original functionaries, as usher, of the Order of the Garter. Next to him came Garter King-of-Arms, in his robes, and then, preceded by an equerry, bearing the



Prince's coronet on an embroidered crimson cushion, walked the principal personage, attended by the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Argyll, the Hereditary Lord Great Chamberlain (an officer distinct from the "Lord Chamberlain" of the Royal household), and Lord Edward Howard, representing the infant Duke of Norfolk, Hereditary Earl Marshal. The Prince was wearing, over the uniform of a general officer, the scarlet robe with ermine bars proper to his rank as Duke of Cornwall. He also wore insignia of the Orders of the Garter, the Golden Fleece, and the Star of India. As he entered the Peers rose in a body, the Lord Chancellor (Lord Westbury) alone remaining seated, covered with his official hat, a circumstance noted by some of the spectators as a point of etiquette on so solemn an occasion. The Prince then advanced to the Woolsack and placed his patent of peerage and writ of summons in the hands of the Chancellor. The oaths were administered to him at the table by the Clerk of Parliament, the titles under which he was sworn being those of Duke of Cornwall, Earl of Rothesay, and Lord of the Isles. After the signing of the Roll of the House by the Prince, the procession moved on, and the Duke of Cambridge having pointed to the Chair of State, on the right hand of the Throne, specially appropriated to the heir apparent on such occasions, the Prince, his head covered with the cocked hat worn by General officers in full dress, seated himself for a few seconds. He then advanced to the Woolsack, shook hands with the Chancellor (who rose, uncovered, at this point) and received his congratulations. The Prince with his attendant Peers and Officials then quitted the House, retiring by the entrance at the right of the Throne. Later on, the Prince re-entered the House in ordinary costume, and took his seat on one of the cross benches as a sign that he had nothing to do with political party. In the evening he attended the debate on the address. We now come to the subject of the marriage alliance between Great Britain and Denmark.

The Speech from the Throne on February 5 referred to the treaty concluded with the King of Denmark (Frederick VII) for the marriage of the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra,

eldest daughter of Prince Christian of Glücksburg and his wife the Princess Louise of Hesse-Cassel. We may here observe that in the autumn of this year (1863), on the sudden death of Frederick VII, the Prince of Wales's father-in-law became King of Denmark as Christian IX. On February 19 proposals for the settlements to be made on the Prince and his bride were brought forward in Parliament by the Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston, Leader of the House of Commons, and unanimously adopted. The heir apparent was to receive £100,000 a year—£40,000 from the Consolidated Fund, and £60,000 from the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall, while £10,000 was voted for the separate use of the Princess of Wales, and £30,000 a year in the event of her surviving her husband. We may as well here dispose of the subject of Parliamentary grants to the King before his accession by stating that, in 1889, an additional yearly income of £36,000 was awarded to the Prince of Wales for the maintenance of his younger children, the Queen at the same time undertaking to provide for her other descendants. When the Parliamentary grant was made, as above, in 1863, Lord Palmerston, the most genial of mankind, made a very characteristic remark in congratulating the nation on having secured a handsome bride for the heir to the throne. This brings us to inquire, with a necessary backward look in point of time, how was the marriage brought about, and who, precisely, was the Princess Alexandra? Setting aside ridiculous fables put forward in answer to the first question, we state the facts. The marriage was essentially and assuredly one of mutual affection, and, after the Prince had once made the acquaintance of the Danish beauty, all thoughts of other projected alliances were given up. It was during his foreign tour in the autumn of 1861 that he first, informally, met the Princess in the Cathedral of Worms, where with his tutor and equerry he went to examine the famous frescoes. There they fell in with Prince Christian of Glücksburg and his eldest daughter. Some time later, the young people met again at Heidelberg, when the Prince of Wales was staying with his sister the Crown Princess of Prussia, and

the Prince Consort records in his diary their apparent attachment. After the Prince Consort's death, the British and Danish young royal personages met again at Laeken, the country residence of the King of the Belgians, during the visit mentioned above in the autumn of 1862. It was then that the Queen's formal consent was given, the betrothal taking place on September 9. Just before the Prince's twenty-first birthday, the event was announced in the *London Gazette*, and it was received with the greatest enthusiasm by the British nation, as a coming relief to the gloom cast over society by the death of the Prince Consort. We note here the very beautiful and appropriate design of the "engagement ring" presented by the Prince, who spent much time in arranging with the jewellers the details of the gifts which he showered on all his own relations, and most intimate friends, and on the near relatives of the bride. The ring ever since worn as a "keeper" for the wedding ring was set with six gems—beryl, emerald, ruby, turquoise, jacinth, and a second emerald, spelling in their initial letters, the Prince's family name, "Bertie". His gifts to the bride, in addition to those mentioned as worn at the wedding, comprised a diamond and pearl diadem, stomacher, and bracelet, and a charming waist-clasp, formed of two large turquoises mounted in gold and inlaid with Arabic characters. The prospective bride, in November 1862, was brought over to England by her father, and she stayed for some time with the Queen at Osborne and at Windsor. The charming Princess Mary of Cambridge, afterwards Duchess of Teck, records in her diary the delight she felt in "darling Alix", the young lady who was so soon, and permanently, to take by storm all hearts in her adopted country. We come now to the second point, the lineage and family connections of the bride, after remarking that in the early days of 1863 the bridegroom was much occupied in receiving addresses of congratulation, supervising extensive alterations at Marlborough House, and arranging details of the various functions attending his marriage. A few days before that event he held, on the Queen's behalf, at St. James's Palace, his first Levee, at which over a thousand gentlemen were presented.



The Princess Alexandra Caroline Marie Charlotte Louise Julia of Denmark, whose parentage has been already given, was born on December 1, 1844, and she had therefore, at the time under review, just entered her nineteenth year. Her brothers and sisters included Prince Wilhelm, who, under the title of George I, was elected King of the Hellenes in 1863, and married the Grand-duchess Olga of Russia; Princess Marie Dagmar, married in 1866 to the Czarewitch who became, in 1881, Alexander III of Russia; Princess Thyra, who became by marriage, in 1878, Duchess of Cumberland; and Prince Waldemar, who married, in 1885, Princess Marie of Orleans. The lineage of the bride and bridegroom presents an interesting parallel and some other notable circumstances. The bride, on the one hand, was directly descended from Gorm the Old (or, the Aged) who, about the middle of the ninth century, being son of a petty king or chieftain, became the first ruler of all Denmark, having employed skill in strategy and administration to absorb into his hereditary dominions all the territory of Denmark as it now exists, along with Schleswig-Holstein and a part of Norway. From him were descended Sweyn and Canute (Cnut), personages well enough known in our pre-Conquest annals, at a time when the relations between England and Denmark were those of active hostility, and when the Danes had made a conquest of this country. The bridegroom was directly descended from Egbert, who, in the age before Gorm became supreme in Denmark, was the first ruler of all the territory from the Channel to the Firth of Forth. After a thousand years of chequered and eventful history in both countries, the two nations and dynasties were now to become united in the closest ties, and this connection of the lines of Gorm and Egbert, it may well be hoped, will be perpetuated for centuries to come. But this is not all. The marriage-union between the lines in the nineteenth century was not the first which had occurred. Through the ancestry of the House of Hanover, the Prince of Wales was doubly connected with Danish Royalty. In the twelfth century, William the Stout of Hanover married the Danish princess Helene, a descendant

of Gorm, and from that union came, some centuries later, the Elector Ernest Augustus of Hanover, who married the Princess Sophia, granddaughter of James the First of England, and lineal ancestor of the Prince of Wales. Through James the First, by his marriage with the Princess Anne of Denmark, the British Prince was again lineally connected with his bride's distant ancestor Gorm. Other less important unions between the two Royal Houses were those of our Queen Anne with Prince George, brother of Christian V of Denmark, and of Christian VII with Caroline, a sister of George the Third of Britain.

We must now deal with the journey of the lady to England. It is certain that she had been brought up at home in no sumptuous fashion. Her father was by no means, for his station, a man of wealth, and, as we have seen, there were several children to provide for. It is probably true, and most honourable to her, if true, that as a young girl the Princess Alexandra had done much in making her own dresses. It is certain that at home, as in her new country, she was deeply sympathetic with, and actively interested in and truly beloved by, the poor. The Danish people, proud of her coming glory, were grieved to lose their friend, and the poorer persons of the little kingdom subscribed "the People's Dowry"—a sum of 100,000 kroner (about £5560), and countless presents poured in for her acceptance from all parts of the country, some being of a very homely kind. The Princess showed her thoughtful kindness by causing the distribution of 3000 Rigsdalers (£333) as dowries during the year for six poor Danish brides. The wedding-day had been fixed for March 10. On February 25 the Princess, accompanied by her parents, her brothers and sisters, and by Mr. Paget, the British Minister in Denmark, left Copenhagen amidst a scene of affectionate farewells from high personages and enthusiastic crowds gathered at the railway station, which was reached after a progress during which flowers were scattered from the house windows. A great reception was accorded at Hamburg, and at Hanover. At the latter city the Royal servants waited on the visitors at the hotel, and in the evening the King gave a grand



ALEXANDRA, PRINCESS OF WALES

From a Painting by R. Lauchert





State banquet at the palace of Herrenhausen. Then the journey was continued to Brussels, and a brief stay was made with the King of the Belgians at Laeken. The Danish Royal Family embarked for England at Flushing on board the *Victoria and Albert*, which was escorted by the ironclad *Warrior*, then the finest ship in the Royal Navy. She was commanded at this time by Captain George Tryon, who, as vice-admiral in charge of the Mediterranean Fleet, perished on June 22, 1893, when the battleship *Victoria* was accidentally rammed and sunk by the *Camperdown* off the coast of Syria. The navigation of the Thames to Gravesend is intricate, and it is on record that Captain Tryon was so careful in performing his duty as escort, in closely following the movements of the Royal yacht that, on arrival at Gravesend, the signal was made from the *Victoria and Albert* "Princess is much pleased", which words the Commander of the *Warrior* caused to be inscribed in brass letters on the wheel. The progress of the Princess from Copenhagen to the port of embarkation had been marked by loyal demonstrations of regard from foreigners who were impressed alike by her high destiny in marriage, and by the personal charms of her youth, beauty, and demeanour. All this was as nothing to the splendid welcome, the universal and uproarious outburst of enthusiasm and affection which awaited her in Britain.

Gravesend was reached in the early morning of March 7, and the yacht, at 11.20 a.m., was anchored opposite the pier. The Lords of the Admiralty, in the *Black Eagle*, were in attendance to salute the Princess as her vessel swung round and approached the landing-stage, where the Mayor and Corporation and many noble and distinguished persons were assembled, standing on the pier, and filling tiers of seats. As the *Victoria and Albert* drew near, all eyes were directed to the deck whereon a lady stood dressed in white. A great cheer rang out from the crowd on the pier, and the slight graceful figure bowed a recognition of the greeting. With a modest and yet eager glance the Princess looked round at the ships, the flotilla of boats gaily decked, the fluttering flags, the faces on the pier, the crowds

farther ashore. Twice she withdrew to the cabin on deck, and twice returned in acknowledgment of the hearty continuous cheering. Then came a diversion on the scene. The royal yacht had drawn up closer. There was a general movement and fresh cheering, as the Prince of Wales, in blue frockcoat and grey trousers, made his way along the pier, bowing right and left in response to the warm welcome. His face was lit up with joy as his gaze rested on the Princess, who was again visible on the deck of the yacht whither the municipal and other personages had now gone to receive her. The Prince walked quickly aboard, and, raising his hat as he drew near, reached his bride, and delighted the people by his salute of a hearty kiss on the cheek. The address from the Corporation followed, and in this the Princess was thanked for the honour rendered to the town in its selection as the place of landing in her adopted country. Then the youthful pair walked together to the landing-stage and along the pier where a number of comely maidens, in white dress with scarlet cloaks and hoods, strewed violets on the pathway, and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs and the cheering continued until the royal party had entered the carriages for conveyance to the railway station.

The journey to London was made slowly in order that the crowds gathered at every station might have the pleasure of a clear view. The terminus of the line was at the Bricklayers' Arms Station, which was splendidly decorated. There the party were met by a royal and official deputation. After a slight luncheon, there came the progress through the capital, which afforded, in its universal display of flags, wreaths, mottoes, and other signs of welcome, and in the spontaneous public enthusiasm, a spectacle surpassing all previous demonstrations of its kind in London. The Prince and Princess entered an open carriage, followed by others conveying the Danish party, the Duke of Cambridge, and the other personages who had met the bride. The route taken was by Old Kent Road and Borough High Street to London Bridge, which was superbly adorned with statuary pictures, rich hangings, lofty bronze tripods bearing



vessels of burning incense, shields with devices, tall masts and pennons. On the Middlesex side, at the open space where is the statue of King William the Fourth, the Lord Mayor and other civic dignitaries joined the procession. At the Royal Exchange there was a grand display of decorations, at the Mansion House the Lady Mayoress presented a splendid bouquet. In St. Paul's Churchyard seats held 12,000 spectators. It was with difficulty that the cavalry escort and mounted police were able to make a way, acting as wedges through the dense masses of people in such narrow thoroughfares as Cheapside and Fleet Street, and some injuries were caused by the violent pressure. The procession to Paddington was one long journey beneath a canopy of flags, banners, streamers, and garlands, with special arches and other structures at many points of vantage. Every point affording the barest glimpse was filled, and on the line of route every house and shop front, every roof and doorway, every steeple and parapet showed smiling faces. School children stood and sang on platforms, ladies' dresses of gayest hues gave brightness to the scene. The Princess, from the first moment of her appearance, won the love of the people, expressed in shouts which almost drowned the din of the bells pealing a welcome. The Strand, Pall Mall, and Piccadilly took the procession to Hyde Park, where a vast muster of volunteers took up the greeting, and so away to Paddington, where the Princess who was the object of this unequalled demonstration took train for Slough. It need not be said that the whole country shared in the welcome accorded to the bride. In all the chief towns and populous centres there was a general holiday with feasting and loyal celebrations. Every headland on the coast, every mountain and prominent hill throughout the shires, had flashing signals and flaming bonfires on the wedding night. The poet laureate, Alfred Tennyson, and Professor Aytoun, the tuneful bard of *Lays of the Scottish Cavaliers*, burst out in song worthy of such an occasion. The engine which took the train to Slough was driven by the Earl of Caithness, then the best amateur locomotive engineer. The way to Windsor Castle was past Eton

College, where the boys had a fine arch and gave an uproarious greeting. In the royal borough itself the Mayor presented an address; and at last the bride, wearied, however delighted by the day's proceedings, received the greeting of the Queen, and enjoyed two days of perfect repose before the wedding.

The marriage was solemnized, on March 10, in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, with a splendour of accessories, and an imposing beauty of detail, which strongly impressed even those illustrious guests who had been present at many a royal and imperial ceremony. Spectators of keenly artistic taste described the scene as perfect. Everything had been foreseen, nothing failed in due readiness for the august occasion. From first to last one event followed another with a unity of design and an ease of action which defied criticism. The famous picture by Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., who was concealed near the corner of the altar on the north side, in order to make his sketches for the permanent record painted by the Queen's special command, gives a vivid representation of the magnificent ceremonial. The interior of the chapel has been already described, and we have only to fill in the framework provided by the architectural beauties in stone, the stalls and banners of the Garter Knights, and the "storied windows richly dight Casting a dim religious light", with the gorgeous display of colour in the uniforms of men, and the raiment of ladies in silks, satins, and velvets dyed in the fashionable mauve and magenta, set off by lace of exquisite pattern and sparkling jewels of every class. The sun had risen in a clear sky, and shone brightly all the morning. Windsor, gay with flowers and triumphal arches, was early astir, and on the line of approach to the Chapel a large force of Horse Guards, Coldstream Guards, and police needed much exertion to restrain the crowd. At about 11.30 the first part of the procession, in seven carriages containing the bride's relatives and other royal personages, passed from the Castle to the Chapel. Fifteen minutes later came eleven carriages with members of the British royal family and their suites, one conveying the Crown Princess of Prussia and her little son, afterwards the Emperor William of Germany. At noon precisely the

bridegroom's procession set forth. The Prince of Wales was in the sixth carriage, with his supporters, the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and the Crown Prince of Prussia, respectively his uncle and brother-in-law, wearing the robes of the Garter. The bridegroom wore the rich flowing mantle, in purple velvet, of the Garter over a General officer's uniform, with the Collar of the Garter and the Order of the Star of India, and looked happy enough, as well he might, in bowing to the cheering spectators. Last of all came the bride's procession, in four carriages, the first three occupied by State officers and equerries, the last containing the Duke of Cambridge, the bride's father, and herself, more charming than ever in a certain timidity of look and manner and in the pallor due to natural emotion. We seek to please lady readers in describing the Princess as arrayed in embroidered white silk covered with Honiton lace and trimmed with silver; the bodice of which dress, falling tight, set off in perfect style the tapering waist and symmetrical form. The usual head-dress was of lace and orange blossoms, and the flounces of the very full skirt were adorned with the same buds. The magnificent display of jewels included a pearl and diamond necklace, brooch, and ear-rings presented by the bridegroom; an opal and diamond bracelet from the Queen; and rich offerings from the Corporation of London, and from the ladies of Leeds and of Manchester. The bridal bouquet contained orange blossoms, white rosebuds, orchids, and sprigs of myrtle, the latter from the same bush as produced the myrtle used for the bouquet of the Princess Royal.

We turn to the scene inside the Chapel. At the altar, glowing golden with the communion plate, stood Dr. Longley, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Dr. Tait, Bishop of London, in their white lawn, with the Dean of Windsor in the scarlet robe which marked him as chaplain of the Order of the Garter. The Knights, in their purple robes and splendid collars, sat in their stalls. The peeresses and other ladies of rank were in the choir, and on front seats down each side of the nave. Heralds in tabards stiff with blazonry stood in a glittering group awaiting the arrival of the processions from beyond the great crimson



curtain, already partially raised, at the end of the chapel. A stir in the assemblage, and the turning of every eye from the south side of the choir towards a point in the opposite quarter, announced the presence of the Queen in the pew or balcony, known as the royal closet, above the north side of the altar, looking directly down upon the space just outside the altar steps. The chief lady of the realm had come by the private entrance, and sate in widow's attire adorned only with the riband and George of the Garter. Behind her stood two of her ladies, one being Lady Augusta Bruce, herself in deep mourning for her brother. The arrival of the processions brought splendid and stirring sights and sounds as, with flourish of trumpet and roll of drum, tossing plumes and the combined glories of gold and jewellery, satin and ermine, ribands and stars, the chief personages of the show moved in stately procession towards the choir. When the trumpeters reached that point, blowing lustily with faces upraised, they passed to right and left, and the Triumphal March of Beethoven announced that the choir was occupied by the first two processions. In a few moments Lord Sydney, the Chamberlain, preceded by the drums, returned to the closed curtain at the end of the nave, and then the ringing cheers outside and the strains of the National Anthem told the coming of the bridegroom's procession, with Norroy and Clarencieux Kings-of-Arms leading the way, followed by the chief officers of the Prince's household and Earl Spencer. The heir apparent passed up the nave with the most dignified demeanour, and a courteous return of the reverential salutes. As he neared the altar he bowed with marked respect to the Queen, and stood quietly awaiting his bride. We have at this point a touching reminiscence furnished by a distinguished Scottish divine, an esteemed friend of the Queen, Dr. Norman Macleod, of the Barony Church, Glasgow. He writes: "I got beside Kingsley and Stanley, and in a famous place. Being in front of the royal pair, we saw better than any, except the officiating clergy. It was a gorgeous sight. Two things struck me much. One was the whole of the royal princesses weeping, though concealing their tears with their bouquets,

as they saw their brother, who was to them but their 'Bertie', and their dear father's son, standing alone waiting for his bride. The other was the Queen's expression as she raised her eyes to heaven while her husband's *Chorale* was sung. She seemed to be with him alone before the throne of God."

The curtain at the end of the chapel closed once more; the sound of drums and trumpets ceased, and only the strains of the organ, playing the march from *Athalie*, were heard. The arrival of the bride's procession was announced by another blare of trumpets, and the assembly rose with faces turned towards the nave as the array appeared, preceded by heralds, Lieutenant-general the Hon. Sir Edward Cust, master of the ceremonies, members of the Danish legation, and the Danish minister. Then came the Princess Alexandra, with her father on the right and the Duke of Cambridge on the left, her long train borne by eight bridesmaids, daughters of earls, marquises, and dukes. Each wore a locket, the gift of the bridegroom, composed of coral and diamonds, signifying the red and white colours of Denmark, with a centre cypher of crystal forming the letters "A. E. A." in a twined monogram. Their dresses were of white tulle over white glacé silk, trimmed with blush roses, shamrock, and white heather, with corresponding wreaths and bouquets. At this point the Prince of Wales took a look backwards to assure himself of the fact of his bride's approach, and then kept his eyes fixed on his mother until the Princess stood beside him. She had entered the chapel to the notes of Handel's march from *Joseph*. Amidst deep, almost breathless, silence, while the people in the choir, stirred from the stately reserve demanded by etiquette, bent eagerly forward to gaze, the Princess moved slowly on, with head bent down, and a nervous glance now and then from side to side. As she drew near the altar-steps, she stopped to bow to the Queen, and some of the bridesmaids, more nervous than the bride, made a movement as if to kneel, but recovered themselves quickly and joined in a low obeisance to the sovereign. At this moment the Prince seemed to have been shaken a little from his composure by the circumstances of the occasion and his solitary position

under close scrutiny. He turned as if to receive the bride, but at once resumed his former posture. The anthem ceased, and all, except the bridesmaids standing close behind the Princess, retired a little apart. The bride rose after kneeling in private prayer, the Queen too standing with bowed head. Then the organ again pealed forth, and opened the marriage service, along with the choir-voices, which included those of the famous Swedish songstress Jenny Lind, and of our own Louisa Pyne, by the chorale whose words begin with "This day with joyful heart and voice". The music of this chant was composed by the Prince Consort, and his widow, at the familiar strains, drew back from the front of her closet in a burst of grief, not observed, from their position, by the bride and bridegroom. As the chant ended, the prelates and the Dean advanced to the altar-rails and the usual service began. The Primate's rich clear voice was distinctly heard in every part of the chapel. The bridegroom rather bowed in assent than replied in words to the question as to willingness to marry. The bride's response at the same point was just audible. At the words "I, Albert Edward, take thee, &c.," the Prince repeated clearly after the Archbishop; the bride's words, now and then, could scarcely be heard; her cheeks were of a crimson hue, and it was plain that she was deeply moved. The bride's father, of course, "gave her away", moving towards the Princess, after a bow to the Primate, as she hastily removed her left-hand glove for the reception of the ring. The Prince, at this part, said his words in a clear, soft, firm, and deliberate voice, and did his duty like a man. When the ceremony of joining hands, and the warning against "putting asunder", were completed, the guns in the "Long Walk" boomed as the choir struck up the 67th Psalm; and the air of Windsor, and of every town and village throughout the country, was filled with the sound of church-bells. During the final benediction the Queen was again overcome by feeling, and, leaning forward, buried her face in her handkerchief. Then the bride and bridegroom, now husband and wife, joined hands, and turned to the Queen with affectionate nods which she returned. The Queen quitted her balcony, and the music sounded joyously





THE MARRIAGE OF KING EDWARD VII AND QUEEN ALEXANDRA  
IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR, MARCH 10TH, 1863

From a Drawing by Charles M. Sheldon



as the whole pageant poured out from the chapel in a glittering stream of many colours. The Prince and Princess, of course, returned in the same carriage to the Castle, to be received by the Queen at the grand entrance. Then followed the signing of the registers, after which the wedding-breakfast was served for the royal guests in the dining-room, and for the other visitors in St. George's Hall. At four o'clock the wedded pair drove to the station in an open carriage with four cream-coloured horses, and started amid thundering cheers for Osborne.

The national festivities in regard to the wedding were elaborate and universal. Bridal banquets were held in every town of note; in the evening the great cities were ablaze with illuminations never surpassed in splendour. In London, the chief streets, especially those through which the royal progress had been made three days previously, were most brilliantly lit up, the day was a general holiday, and gratuitous performances were given in all the theatres. The finest display of nocturnal illumination was that given at Edinburgh, a place singularly favoured by nature for such a performance. Our description is taken from a contemporary newspaper. "From stem to stern the huge ship-like ridge which lies between the old town and the new was radiant with dancing, glimmering lights from thousands of seeming port-holes. East, west, north, and south—all the people were rejoicing in the midst of fire. From the soaring castellated height where James the Sixth first saw the light to the small palace chamber where his hapless mother, a few months before, had beheld the foul murder wrought on Rizzio, there was nought but rejoicing and illumination. Scarce had the sun gone down ere the city began to dot itself with balls of fire; and first the spire of the church of Edinburgh's ancient tutelary saint, St. Giles, rose up from amid the misty gloaming in all the colours of the rainbow, studded with rubies and emeralds, and showing out brightly the ancient imperial crown which surmounts the Gothic spire. Then the dome of St. George's—the miniature St. Paul's—raised itself up among the evening clouds in white fire, and was perhaps the most beautiful piece of architectural illumination of which the city



could boast on that memorable night. And anon the monument to the once Great Unknown, the Wizard of the North, appeared in detached pieces—its basement looking like the entrance-gate to some of the fairy palaces painted in the Arabian Nights. The Melville Column was surrounded with fire, and the lofty monument to Nelson stood boldly out from the midst of the flickering lights in shallow pans of floating grease. All was as bright and beautiful as it was wonderful and grand. The usual glare of light from the houses of public entertainment had given place to the more glorious beams from variegated lamps and Chinese lanterns. The sun was, of course, absent, and the moon, as if to heighten the effect, hid herself behind clouds. The mean and squalid streets by which the traveller enters Edinburgh were lighted up as effectively as the gorgeous mansions and spacious gardens in the centre of the New Town. The scene was indeed one of overwhelming grandeur. As far as the eye could reach there were pillars of fire and jets of varied-coloured flame lighting up the city and its suburbs; and not alone the suburbs, for the country for miles around where

“ Traced like a map the landscape lies  
In cultured beauty stretching wide  
From Pentland's green acclivities  
To ocean with its azure tide ”,

gave evidence of the extent of the demonstration. The streets were covered with myriads of people hasting to and fro to view the numerous designs which the energy of the Illumination Committee and the enterprise of private persons had spread over the capital. Here, brilliant Prince of Wales' feathers lighted up a street; there, transparencies and festoons of evergreens rivalled the bright flames from gas jets. Rockets rose high in air, and bursting up among the clouds sent glowing golden showers over the cheering spectators. The illumination on and around the Castle was a perfect study. Fancy great terraces of blazing lights winding in all the conceivable vagaries of the Firth of Forth, and you have but a slight idea of the brilliant spectacle presented by our venerable Castle on the marriage-day. Nor will the appear-

ance of the hills be soon effaced from remembrance. On Salisbury Crags and Arthur's Seat huge bonfires, blazing like volcanoes, twisted and waved their tongues of flame high in the air, shedding a lurid glare on the dusky heavens above, and giving a golden hue to the whins and heather below. Every important edifice, every prominent natural point, was selected for illuminative decoration, and when the whole were in full festal brilliancy the scene was gorgeous and imposing beyond the power of words to describe."

Mr. Frith, in his *Autobiography*, gives an amusing anecdote concerning the newly-wedded Princess. The artist, whose first sketch of the wedding ceremony had pleased the Queen, encountered many difficulties in later work for his picture. He needed to have sittings from many of those who were present, and also the loan of the dresses worn on the occasion, and some of the distinguished ladies made excuses in the matter, and did not send their raiment for pictorial reproduction until Mr. Frith had, with courteous firmness, "threatened them", as he writes, "with the Queen". The chief difficulty arose with the Princess of Wales, not, of course, from any lack of amiability or goodwill, but from inexperience or temperament. She seemed not to know that, in sitting to an artist for portraiture, she must be still and keep her face in one position. At last Mr. Frith spoke to the Prince about the matter, and was laughingly told to "scold her". The royal husband seems also to have said a word to his wife on behalf of the artist. On another visit to Marlborough House the painter came across the eminent sculptor, John Gibson, as he waited for a sitting from the Princess. When he saw Gibson's work, Frith expressed the opinion that likeness to the distinguished original was lacking, and the sculptor replied: "Well, you see, the Princess is a delightful lady, but she can't sit a bit". "Just at this moment", writes Mr. Frith, "I was summoned to the Prince, whom I found with the Princess, and I saw, or thought I saw, a sort of pretty smiling pout, eloquent of reproof and of half-anger with me. The Prince had something to show me, and then he led the way to Gibson, the Princess and I following. No sooner

did we find ourselves in the sculptor's presence than—after some remarks upon the bust—the Prince said ‘How do *you* find the Princess sit, Mr. Gibson?’ The sculptor got out of his difficulty by returning the Prince's look in dead silence, and then looking at his beautiful model, and, with another glance at the Prince, smiling, and shaking his head. ‘There you see,’ cried the Prince to his wife, ‘you sit properly neither to Mr. Gibson nor to Mr. Frith.’ ‘I do, I do,’ said she, ‘you are two bad men!’ Then all smiled, and Gibson went on with his work, the Princess sitting admirably,” writes the painter, “for the short time that I remained. This was a good omen, as I afterwards found.”

We turn to a very different scene, also illustrative of the character of the bride. We note first that, at early morning of December 18, 1862, the mortal remains of the Prince Consort had been removed from the entrance to the royal vault in St. George's Chapel to the mausoleum which was in course of erection at Frogmore. The ceremony, which was entirely private, was attended by the Prince of Wales and his brothers Arthur and Leopold, Prince Alfred being still absent in the Mediterranean. The mind of the heir apparent had been carried back to the service held by the Lake of Tiberias in that year, and he wrote to Professor Stanley, who was now one of his chaplains, inviting him to spend Easter, 1863, at Sandringham. “It would be especially agreeable to me, as last Easter Sunday we took the Holy Sacrament together at Lake Tiberias.” On this visit Stanley writes: “On the evening of Easter Eve the Princess came to me in a corner of the drawing-room with her Prayer Book, and I went through the Communion Service with her; explaining the peculiarities, and the likenesses and differences to and from the Danish service. She was most simple and fascinating.” In another letter Stanley writes of the “intense pleasure” which he had in this visit to Sandringham. “The Easter-day at Tiberias was the one day on which I look back in our whole journey with quite unmixed satisfaction, and therefore it was a great matter of thankfulness that the Prince should have wished to keep such a remembrance of it. I was there for three days. I read the whole service,



preached, and then gave the first English Sacrament to this 'Angel in the Palace'. I saw a good deal of her, and can truly say that she is as charming and beautiful a creature as ever passed through a fairy tale." We can only remark here that praise so emphatic, bestowed by one of the best and most discerning and accomplished of Englishmen on the wife of the heir to the throne during the earliest days of her presence in England, has been fully endorsed by all subjects of the Crown during a long experience. That which she was as Princess of Wales, that she remained as, in the literally true words of the Prayer Book, "our gracious Queen Alexandra".

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## CHAPTER X

### PUBLIC DUTIES AND DOMESTIC INCIDENTS

1863-1864

Before entering on any record of the public career of the King as Prince of Wales, we note the settlement of the newly-wedded pair in their town residence and their chief country abode, beginning with Marlborough House, their London headquarters for the space of thirty-eight years. Some account is also given of St. James's Palace, where the Prince held so many levees, and the Princess many "drawing-rooms" on behalf of the Queen during her long period of abstention from that portion of her functions as sovereign.

Marlborough House stands at the western end of Pall Mall, on the south side, almost completely hidden from public view by walls and outbuildings, and by neighbouring structures on the south side of the street. In olden days this part of the metropolis presented a widely different appearance from that of the Victorian age. The site of St. James's Palace and Marlborough House, lying west of the village of Charing, was composed of meadows dotted about with bushes, briars, and coppices. On this ground, about a quarter of a mile from Charing Cross, there

was erected in very early times a hospital for fourteen poor women, "maidens that were leprous". The structure included a chantry, refectory, and chapel, and, as a religious foundation, was dedicated to St. James the Less, Bishop of Jerusalem. There were eight "brethren" attached to the house for the discharge of the religious duties. There for over four centuries brethren and sisters dwelt in peace. Gifts of land at Westminster, Hampstead, and elsewhere were made to the hospital, and Edward the First granted to the inmates the privilege and profits of a fair to be kept on the eve of St. James and six days following—the origin of the "May Fair" held in the fields near Piccadilly, which was to give its name to one of the most fashionable quarters of London. This hospital of St. James grew in size, and became at last possessed of rich and beautiful gardens and orchards. Henry the Eighth, in his love of sport, cast his eyes on the coverts and marshy land, abounding in wild fowl, adjacent to the hospital, on the ground now forming St. James's Park. He planned a hunting lodge as his headquarters for excursions on hawking and coursing towards the woods of Kensington and the heights of Hampstead. The old hospital was therefore pulled down, in the year of the King's marriage with Anne Boleyn, at a time when he was regardless of wrong done to the old religious foundations, and, as the old chronicler Holinshed records, "made a faire parke for his greater commoditie (convenience) and pleasure". A stately house was also created. The Crown, in exchange for the lands around the hospital, gave the brethren some territory in Suffolk, while the sisterhood were pensioned off and the leper women sent adrift. This house, erected by Henry the Eighth, whence he rode forth with his courtiers early on May morning to bring back the fragrant boughs in triumph, was the origin of St. James's Palace. A small part of the Chapel Royal, and the chimney piece of the old presence chamber, bearing the initials of Henry and Anne, are all that now remain of his structure, saving the gatehouse and turrets, built of red brick, which face St. James's Street. These, with the Chapel Royal, adjoining them on the west, cover the



ST. JAMES'S PALACE





site of the ancient hospital. Passing to the days of Charles the First, we find that on some ground near at hand that king built a Catholic chapel for his queen, Henrietta Maria. The place was desecrated and partially demolished under the Commonwealth, but it was restored by Charles the Second for another Catholic queen, Katharine of Braganza. She erected some buildings for the residence of her Portuguese priests, next to the chapel, with cloisters enclosing a grassy court. The whole establishment became known as the "Friary". The site of this chapel of Queen Katharine is now occupied by Marlborough House Chapel.

It was on the destruction of Whitehall Palace by fire in 1697 that English court life was shifted to St. James's Palace, and "our Court of St. James's" became the centre of British regal authority. Among the notable events that took place in the old palace were the death of Queen Mary the First; of Henry, Prince of Wales, eldest son of James the First; and of Caroline, Queen of George the Second; the birth of Charles the Second, James, "the Old Pretender", and George the Fourth; and the marriage of the Princess (afterwards Queen) Anne with Prince George of Denmark; of George the Fourth and Queen Caroline; of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert; and of the Princess Royal with Prince Frederick of Prussia. There also, on the night before his execution, Charles the First took farewell of some of his children. In 1761 George the Third purchased Buckingham House, and the palace at St. James's ceased to be the regal residence. In January, 1809, a fire destroyed most of the apartments, and the existing building arose.

The archway of the gatehouse leads into the "Colour Court", so called from the colours of the military guard of honour being placed there. Until 1862 the daily changing of the guard, to the music of the band of one of the regiments of Foot Guards, used to take place there; since that date the ceremony has been performed in the Friary Court, facing the grounds of Marlborough House. In the Colour Court the sovereigns have been formally "proclaimed" on accession to the throne. The Chapel

Royal, on the west side of the great gateway, is a plain oblong structure, with a ceiling divided into small squares painted by Holbein. The State apartments, on the south front of the palace, face the garden and St. James's Park. They are entered by a handsome passage and staircase, at the top of which is a gallery or guardroom with walls bearing muskets, swords, and daggers arranged in various devices, such as stars, circles, diamonds, and Vandyke borders. The Yeomen of the Guard on the occasion of a levee occupy this room. Then comes the old "Presence Chamber", now called the Tapestry Chamber, from the wall coverings made for Charles the Second, but not hung until the marriage of the Prince of Wales in 1795, having until then lain forgotten in a huge chest. The first of the State apartments proper is finely furnished with sofas and other seats in crimson velvet trimmed with gold lace, the curtains and wall coverings being of crimson damask. There is a portrait of George the Second in royal robes. The second apartment is called Queen Anne's Room, fitted in the same style, and having a full length portrait of George the Third, in the robes of the Garter, flanked by paintings of Lord Howe's great naval victory on "the glorious First of June", 1794, and of Trafalgar. The third room, or Presence Chamber, is the levee room, like the others, but far more splendid, in decorations. The throne, on a raised platform, is covered with crimson velvet and gold lace, with a canopy in the same fashion. The "Royal Closet" is the official name of the chamber where the sovereign gave audience to ambassadors and foreign ministers.

The Ambassadors' Court lies westwards of the Colour Court, and there are the rooms of some members of the royal family. Among the residents were formerly the Duchess and the Princess Mary of Cambridge. At Clarence House, in this quarter, formerly resided Queen Victoria's mother, the Duchess of Kent. In 1874, after being much enlarged by raising it a story and other alterations, it became the town residence of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, afterwards of Saxe-Coburg Gotha. In 1901 it was granted to the Duke of Connaught, brother of King



Edward the Seventh. In the Ambassadors' Court is the office of the Lord Chamberlain's department, whence control is exercised over most of the officers and servants attached to the Court in every capacity. In 1893 the part of the palace abutting on the Ambassadors' Court became the town residence of the Duke and Duchess of York, and so it remained until, in 1901, on the accession of Edward the Seventh, they migrated, as Prince and Princess of Wales, to the Marlborough House with which we are now to deal.

In 1708 the Duchess of Marlborough, the famous "Sarah" of haughty, grasping, and ill-tempered fame, received from Queen Anne a fifty years' lease of "the Friary next St. James's Palace" at a low rental, with the grounds attached, and about a third part of the garden of Mr. Secretary Boyle taken out of St. James's Park. The Duchess received power to erect certain buildings on the ground, and Sir Christopher Wren was appointed architect. The old structures were demolished, and on May 24, O.S., or June 4, N.S., 1709, the first stone of the new edifice was laid by the Duchess. The bricks used, somewhat smaller, and certainly cheaper than English ware, came from Holland. In 1709 a new lease was obtained, and this included a piece of land, known as the "Royal Garden", about two acres in extent, next to the "Friary". The whole of the leasehold property thus reached its present area of nearly five acres. The house was finished by midsummer, 1711, as a one-storied building, little more than one-half of the present altitude, with long narrow windows, and much cramped, as now, on the Pall Mall side. The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough made this abode their town house until his death in 1722, and his widow occasionally lived there until her decease in 1744. The place was at that time even more quiet and retired than at present, being shut in by a grove of chestnut trees on two sides, with its west front open to the Palace gardens, and its south front to the park, which was then scarcely public ground. On the death of the old Duchess the residue of the crown lease was left in trust for the second Duke. Additions and improvements were made, a second story, with small square windows, being added

by the third Duke, while the old ground-floor rooms were improved. The fourth Duke, who succeeded to the title in 1758, built a large riding-school on the site of the present stables, and then Marlborough House remained without any important alteration in the structure until 1863.

Marlborough House, the origin of whose name has now been fully demonstrated, had other notable residents before the occupancy of the Prince and Princess of Wales in the reign of Queen Victoria. According to one account, the mansion was bought by the Crown, in 1817, for the Princess Charlotte and her husband Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, but the death of the Princess, so greatly mourned by the whole nation, occurred before the purchase was completed. By another account, the fourth Duke of Marlborough let the house to the widower in 1824, and it is certain that he resided there, when he was in London, from the above date until, in 1831, he became the first King of the Belgians. His dinner parties were much appreciated, and he gave concerts at which the leading operatic singers of the time performed. It was at Marlborough House that he received deputies sent from Belgium by the provisional government, after the revolt from Holland, to sound him as to his acceptance of the crown, and in June, 1831, there arrived the deputation from the Belgian Congress announcing his election to the throne. On the accession of William the Fourth, an Act of Parliament settled on Queen Adelaide the possession of Marlborough House for the term of her natural life, in case of her surviving the King. The mansion was thoroughly repaired, decorated, and furnished, and when the Queen became a widow, in 1837, she spent her life of retirement mostly there or at Bushey Park. In her London residence she entertained her niece, Queen Victoria, in June, 1839, and, in the following February she gave a grand dinner in honour of the sovereign's marriage. Queen Adelaide's parties were famous, we are told, for "completeness and comfort", and she gave concerts at which Miss Stephens, the great tenor Braham, and other performers, delighted their hearers. Fine ballets, by Viennese dancers, were also given. The great French

tragic actress Rachel once gave a recitation, and Jenny Lind, the renowned Swedish singer, was also heard in the saloons. The Queen-Dowager died in 1849, and in the following year an Act of Parliament secured the mansion for the Prince of Wales on his attaining the age of eighteen years, and provided for the erection of suitable coachhouses and stables. The Prince was then only nine years old, and the house was meanwhile devoted partially to the display of the pictures left to the nation by Mr. Vernon, which became known as "the Vernon Gallery", including works of Turner and other great British artists. From 1852 until 1860 the funeral car of the Duke of Wellington was exhibited in the courtyard, and was then transferred to the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral. During the same period, the upper part of the mansion was appropriated for the use of the Department of Practical Art, with a library, a museum of manufactures, and a lecture room. A portion of the collection of Mr. Bernal, Chairman of Committees in the House of Commons, being works of art purchased by the nation, was placed there, and the School of Design students at Somerset House were installed in the Mansion as the headquarters of a new "Normal Training School of Art", afterwards transferred to South Kensington. In 1859 Parliament voted the sum of £15,000 to fitting the house as a residence for the Prince. A fine apartment was made out of the three reception rooms on the garden front. The "Indian room" and the dining-room were partly formed out of two other chambers; and a portico entrance, hall entrance, and corridor were added to the north front, with an equerry's room and one for the lady-in-waiting. The building became a stately red-brick edifice, ornamented with stone, having a very extensive front, and wings on each side decorated at the corners with stone rustic work. A small colonnade extends on the side of the area next the wings, while the opposite side is occupied by various "offices". At the top of the house there was formerly a balustrade, but the first story is now crowned by an attic raised above the cornice. The front towards St. James's Park resembles the other, except that, in place of two wings, there are niches for



statues, and instead of the area, as in front, a flight of steps descends into the gardens.

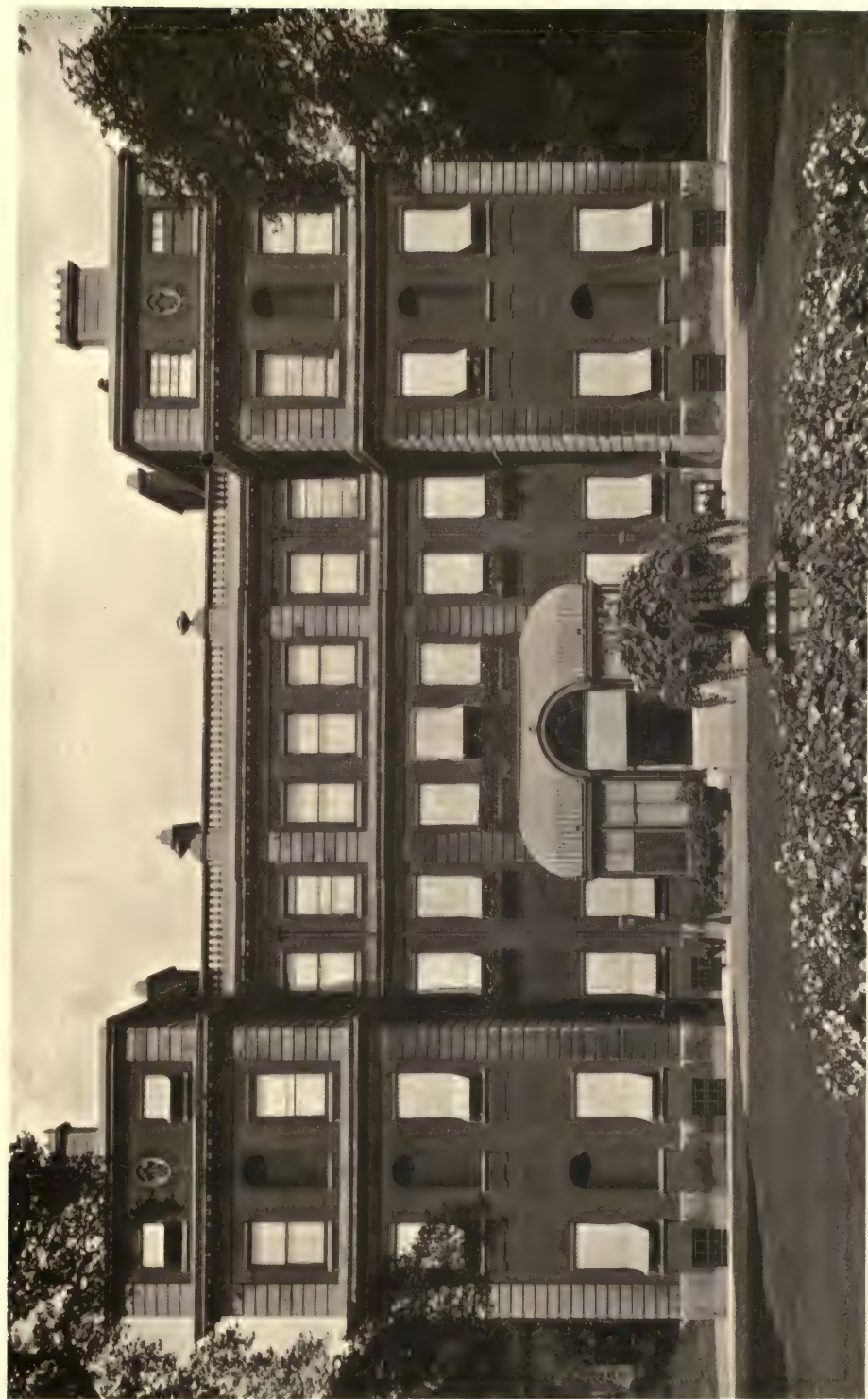
It was in April, 1863, that the Prince and Princess of Wales began to live at their town house. During the long period of their residence, in addition to various necessary works effected from time to time by the Crown, the Prince expended a total of over £50,000 in repairs, decorations, and alterations, greatly adding to the comfort and value of the property. As the family increased, the old upper rooms used by the children were found unsuitable, and the fire which occurred in 1865 showed that the timber was in an unsafe condition. This conflagration might have had serious results. On the afternoon of July 4 Lieutenant-colonel Armytage (a captain in the Coldstream Guards), who was on duty at St. James's Palace, saw smoke coming from the roof of Marlborough House above the east wing, in the position of the royal nurseries. He at once called out the palace-guard, and they brought out the fire-engine into the garden of the House. The Prince was already actively at work in his shirt sleeves, turning water from taps for the servants to carry up in jugs and pails. He and Colonel Armytage began to rip up the nursery floors with tomahawk hatchets and they thus traced the fire to the ventilating shaft. The use of the hose soon extinguished the flames, with the flooding of the staircase owing to the needless quantity of water used. The Prince had a narrow escape of falling through the rafters when the flooring was ripped up, and he is described as coming out of this ordeal of fire as black as a sweep, covered with dust from the timber which was in an advanced condition of dry rot. We have mentioned this exciting scene in advance in order to note the changes thereby caused in the structure. This part of the mansion was remodelled, with an additional story to the sides, and the room of Sir Dighton Probyn, Comptroller and Treasurer of the Household, and the schoolroom, were added to the north front. The old style of Sir Christopher Wren was, as far as possible, preserved in the new portion of the edifice, and on the garden front the new story was decorated with stone medallions of the Prince of Wales' feathers. In

1874-75 the Prince's sitting-room, on the first floor facing the quadrangle, was built, and on the east side another like apartment was added for the sake of a symmetrical appearance. In 1885 a story was added to the east and west wings of the office buildings. In connection with the fire at Marlborough House, we may here note the King's habit, for many years when he was resident in London as Prince of Wales, of attending great fires in the capital, of the outbreak of which he was specially informed by the head of the Fire Brigade. His frequent companion on such occasions was one of his most intimate friends, the Duke of Sutherland, both of them watching with great interest the process of extinguishing the flames.

The house is, in plan, almost a square, with the state apartments on the ground floor. The private rooms of the Prince and Princess, and of royal visitors, were on the first floor; those of the Princesses, and of Miss Knollys, one of the Princess of Wales' ladies, on the second floor; and the third floor, extending on only two sides of the square, was occupied by servants. With the domestic offices, the house contains over 100 rooms. There are three carriage entrances, two in Marlborough gate, and one in Pall Mall, with a private door alongside the German chapel. In the garden there are no elaborate flower beds, but only borderings of geraniums and other blooms, along the raised terraced walks, with groups of flowers in stone vases, and a circular bed in front of the garden entrance. Space is thus afforded for guests at the garden parties to wander about on a flat lawn, shaded by elms, chestnuts, and evergreen oaks, which screen the place from view on every side, and give shelter to nesting wood-pigeons, thrushes, and starlings. On each side of the garden entrance is a small brass-mounted rifled field-gun, taken at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, in Lower Egypt, on September 13, 1882. On this and on the north side of the house are bay trees in large boxes. In a grove of trees, some tiny tombstones commemorate favourite dogs of Queen Alexandra when she was Princess of Wales. The only place resembling a conservatory is a glass structure, a sort of portico, leading from the

garden into the drawing-room. It is used as a smoking-room and a lounge, being floored with blue and yellow tiles, and provided with tables, couches, and easy chairs—blue and white—and a white marble fountain filled with ferns and lycopodium or club moss, perpetually and musically watered by the spray. This charming room, if room it may be called, leads into the great drawing-room, a splendid apartment 65 ft. by 25, adorned in white and gold, with a polished oak floor, partly covered by an Axminster carpet and Persian rugs. The walls are panelled in crimson silk, with projecting girandoles for electric light. There are two grand pianofortes, side by side, by Broadwood. The other adornments comprise family portraits, Chinese screens, a wedding present, in pure gold, from Australia, two ormolu Louis XVI cabinets, and some fine vases in Dresden china. From the western end of the drawing-room the visitor passes into the "Indian room", containing one of the finest collections in the world of Indian arms and art objects. Many of the presents received by the King, as Prince, during his Indian tour, are deposited at Sandringham, and all have been shown at various places in England, including the South Kensington Museum, and in 1878 they were displayed at the Paris Exhibition. The appearance, by electric light, of the gems on the scabbards and hilts of the weapons, is beyond description. The figured velvet on the walls, and the curtains, carpets, and rugs, are of Indian design, and the furniture is upholstered in Indian cloth of gold, with cushions partly hidden by splendid elephant housings in green and gold. On one side are tables, with glass tops, filled with commemorative medals, and with trowels, and keys, used in the laying of foundation stones, and in opening public buildings. From the Indian room a short corridor leads to the Tapestry room, covered with a handsome carpet of Chinese silk. The walls are draped with fine old silk tapestry, representing Scriptural subjects, a present from Queen Victoria. On the walls of the west staircase are portraits of the great Duke of Marlborough, his brother, Lord Churchill, and his illustrious colleague in war, Prince Eugene of Savoy. There is also a picture representing





MARLBOROUGH HOUSE



an incident at the battle of Ramillies (May, 1706), where the great commander's horse fell in leaping a wide ditch, and the Duke was heavily thrown. As his equerry, Colonel Bingfield, held the stirrup, for a remount, a cannon ball took his head clean off. On another staircase is a picture of the battle of Malplaquet, the murderous conflict of September, 1709. In the room used by the equeries are two ten-inch spherical shells fired from the forts of Alexandria when they were bombarded by the British fleet in July, 1882. Both of these came through the sides of the flagship *Alexandra*, with Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour (afterwards Lord Alcester) on board, one of them falling into his cabin. The shells were presented by him to the Princess, who had "christened" the ironclad called by her name.

The basements of the house are particularly spacious, with an excellent servants' hall, wine-cellars, furnace-room, store-rooms, china-room, florist's room, beer-cellar, still-room, linen-room, pantries, and a fire-proof plate-room. In this may be seen a large and magnificent display of presents received in the "Silver-Wedding" year and on other occasions, and of presentation-services for dinner, tea, and breakfast; with centre-pieces, salvers, flagons, caskets, bowls, tankards, vases, racing-cups, yachting-prizes, candelabra, candlesticks, models of animals and buildings, statuettes, gold and silver cups, antique silver spoons, silver-gilt salt-cellars, and other objects. The household, when the Prince and Princess were in residence, included about eighty-five servants indoors, and over forty more in the stables. The old spacious vestibule or hall opening into the street, as erected on the plan of Sir Christopher Wren, became, on the addition of the portico and entrance-hall to the original front, a fine reception-room 30 ft. square, lighted from above by a glazed dome. On the upper part of three of the walls are Laguerre's paintings of the battle of Blenheim. From 1838 to 1859 these pictures were covered over with stucco, which was removed, and the pictures were then cleverly restored. The walls are covered with fine Gobelin tapestry, partly a present from Napoleon the Third, representing scenes from *Don Quixote*. Some modern Gobelin work shows



the slaughter of the Mamelukes at Cairo, in March, 1811, by Mohammed (Mehemet) Ali, Pasha of Egypt. It is well to note here the encouragement given by the Prince and Princess to British manufactures in the fact that, except Sèvres china, tapestry, and Oriental art-work, nearly all furniture in the house is of home production, the damask and silk being from Manchester and Spitalfields, the "Axminster" carpets from Wilton, and the other articles from London workshops.

The "State" or principal dining-room, entered from the drawing-room at the east side of the house, is a fine seven-windowed apartment over 50 ft. long, with a marble mantelpiece at each end, having over them copies of Winterhalter's pictures of Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort. There are also portraits of the Emperor and Empress Frederick of Germany, and of the first three Georges. The floor is covered with a rich Turkey carpet. The centre-piece which was used at the Prince of Wales' annual "Derby-day dinner" was 7 ft. long and about 2 ft. wide, with two others at the ends of the table, each 5 ft. long, representing St. George of England, St. David of Wales, the battles of Crecy and Agincourt, and Britannia as protectress of the colonies. In these ornaments were also a symbolical representation of the Indian Empire, the royal arms of Great Britain and Ireland, and those of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The amount of floral decoration in the house when the former Prince and Princess of Wales, afterwards King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra, were resident, was very remarkable. From 300 to 400 vases of fresh-cut flowers were daily used in the rooms, needing the exclusive work of two men. There were many singing-birds for the Princess, and plenty of dogs and cats—Persians being her favourites in the latter kind. Music was ever a great delight to the chief occupants of the mansion, and the leading representatives of the art, Sir Charles and Lady Hallé, Sir Arthur Sullivan, Sir William Cusins, Madame Albani, and Madame Patti, were always warmly welcomed. Pianos, "grand" and others, were all over the house. With the intimate domestic life of the royal circle, into which some modern journalism

pries, or strives to pry, so closely, we are not concerned in this record.<sup>1</sup>

After a brief sojourn at Sandringham (in the old home, not the present mansion) the young royal couple went to Marlborough House for the London "season", and were immersed in the mingled pleasure and business of divers "functions" and entertainments. There was a "state visit" to the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, where a brilliant assemblage received them with a great display of loyalty. On May 2 the annual Royal Academy Banquet took place, with Sir Charles Eastlake (President from 1850 to 1865) in the chair. It is well known that this event takes a leading place among those which mark the high tide of fashion in the capital. The place where the President and Council of the Royal Academy of Arts entertain their guests has been usually for many years Burlington House, in Piccadilly. The day is always the Saturday preceding the first Monday in May, when the Exhibition of pictures is opened to the public. The guests at this banquet form an audience demanding, in the speaker who addresses them, either great experience or exceptional nerve, in order that he may fulfil his task with ease and effect. There are gathered the most eminent men of the day in the British Isles, in the various walks of literature, science, and art, and in social and political position. The presence of the heir to the throne, so soon after his marriage, conferred much distinction on the banquet given on this occasion in the Academy rooms at the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square. After the toast of "The Queen", the "memory of the great and good Prince Consort" was drunk in solemn silence, and Sir Charles Eastlake, in proposing the Prince and the rest of the Royal Family, alluded to the "personal attractions, gracious manners, and amiable character" of the Princess. The Prince delivered his reply, according to the testimony of one of his hearers, in a very clear and pleasing tone, and with an impressive manner showing that he was deeply

<sup>1</sup> In regard to Marlborough House, the author desires to express his warm acknowledgments to Mr. Arthur Henry Beavan for permission to use matter from his very interesting and valuable work *Marlborough House and its Occupants* (White, 1896).

moved. The salient point of his brief speech was that in which, referring to his "beloved and lamented father" he said "his bright example cannot fail to stimulate my efforts to tread in his footsteps; and, whatever my shortcomings may be, I may at least presume to participate in the interest which he took in every institution tending to encourage art and science in this country, but more especially in the prosperity of the Royal Academy". We learn with interest that the Prince, whose natural manners and simplicity delighted good judges on this occasion, almost broke down under the new and very trying ordeal to which he was subjected. After some moments of hesitation, during which he lost the thread of what (as he told Sir Charles Eastlake, turning to him with mingled vexation and good-humour) he "knew quite by heart in the morning", the speaker, in a manly, natural, and graceful way, recovered himself and all went well. This particular banquet became one of special interest, from another point of view, before the year closed, owing to the very sudden and much-lamented death, on Christmas eve, of Mr. Thackeray, who was among the speakers at the dinner, along with the Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston, and the great geologist, Sir Roderick Murchison.

A ceremonial of importance came on June 8—the conferring on the Prince of the freedom of the City of London, an honour to which, as the resolution of the Court of Common Council, passed on March 12, had declared, he was "entitled by patri-mony". The occasion was, in fact, the official reception of the Prince and Princess by the civic authorities, with a grand entertainment, in the form of an assembly and a ball, to about two thousand distinguished guests in every walk of life. The preparations made were of the most elaborate and gorgeous description. Guildhall Yard was turned into a vast reception-hall in two stories. The lower story was divided by ropes of purple silk into three passages or avenues, the central one being kept for royal personages. The walls were adorned in cream-colour and gold, and with splendid tapestries. The ceiling showed golden stars on a ground of sky-blue, and countless mirrors reflected the



splendours of costume and the personal charms of those who passed onwards to the Guildhall. That fine structure had, on a dais at the eastern end, state-chairs for the Prince and Princess, duly adorned with the coronet and the feathers, which latter were made of spun glass and extended for 9 ft. It is impossible to enumerate the guests; it is of interest to know that they included Thackeray, Dickens, and Miss Coutts, afterwards the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. The Royal party arrived after 9 p.m., the Prince in military uniform with the Garter Riband and Star, the Princess in a white dress of rich material but simple make, wearing among her jewels the very magnificent necklace of diamonds presented by the City of London. The Lord Mayor (Mr. Alderman Rose, M.P.) of course received them, and conducted them to the dais, where the usual ceremonies, with the presentation of the gold casket containing the record of the "freedom", were performed. The Prince returned thanks in fitting terms, and then the ball was opened by a quadrille in which the two principal pairs were the Lord Mayor and the Princess, and the Prince and the Lady Mayoress. The crowd was too great for much dancing in the body of the Guildhall. The table at supper, which was given to the royal guests in the Council Chamber, was made rarely splendid by an abundant display of the rich ornaments and plate of the City Companies. The Princess of Wales was much delighted with a moonlight scene prepared in the Court of Aldermen, representing her father's castle at Bernsdorf, with herself in the foreground among flowerbeds and shrubs. The chief royal visitors left at 1 a.m., the route from the City to Marlborough House being brilliantly illuminated.

A week later the royal pair left town for Oxford, where the annual "Commemoration" was taking place. The special train conveyed them from Paddington to Culham station, some miles south of the University city. The weather was very bad, and it was in a downpour of rain that the carriage and four, with closed windows, started for Oxford. In front rode the Duke of Marlborough, as Lord-lieutenant of the county, and the Duke of Newcastle and Earl Granville were among the royal suite. At Magdalen Bridge the carriage was opened in spite of the rain,

and, after the inevitable civic "address", the Prince and Princess drove, amid loud cheers from gownsmen and townsmen, up the famous High Street to Christ Church, entering by the Tom Gate mentioned in connection with the Prince's career as an "undergrad". The first function performed was the distribution of prizes by the Princess to members of the University Rifle Corps, which was drawn up for inspection, forming three sides of a square, in Tom Quad. Among the visitors present were Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, the Bishops of London (Tait) and Oxford (Wilberforce), Dr. Trench, Dean of Westminster, Dr. Pusey, and Professor Stanley, so recently seen by us in the Eastern tour, and soon to succeed Trench, on his promotion to the Archbishopric of Dublin, in the Westminster post. At the Commemoration on the following day, the Sheldonian Theatre, as may be well imagined, presented a splendid spectacle. Mr. Disraeli, Gladstone's great Parliamentary rival, was present. The undergraduates indulged in their usual noisy and effusive remarks of would-be wit, exchanged for genuine cheers of loyal admiration when the charming Princess entered with her husband, who was wearing his gown over his colonel's uniform. He took his seat next to the Chancellor, the eloquent Earl of Derby, leader of the Conservative party, and received in due form the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law. The Chancellor addressed him in a Latin speech which was much admired for the beauty and purity of its diction and a happy choice of topics. It was a busy time for the royal visitors. On the day of arrival they had attended a "Fancy Fair", opening the bazaar in aid of the Radcliffe Infirmary. The Princess had also viewed with interest her husband's former home at Frewen Hall. In the evening they had been the chief guests at a banquet in the hall of Christ Church, and this festivity was followed by a ball in the Corn Exchange, given by the "Apollo" University Lodge of Freemasons. The visitors passed into the room through a gaily adorned marquee of entrance, and under the "arch of steel" formed by crossed rapiers held by members of the Lodge in masonic costume. On June 17, after the Commemoration, the visitors saw the procession of boats, and attended



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THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES AT CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD, 1863





a flower-show in the gardens of St. John's College. On the following day they returned to London, and were soon acting as hostess and host at their first or "house-warming" party at Marlborough House. In the London season there is little rest for those who are healthy, wealthy, young, and happy, and, least of all, for a newly-wedded royal pair. On June 26, Prince and Princess were chief guests at a magnificent ball, given by the officers of the Guards to two thousand visitors, in the picture-galleries of the International Exhibition building at South Kensington. The decorations and accessories were of surpassing splendour, especially in the display of gold and silver plate.

Amid the allurements of pleasure, however, the demands of charity were not neglected. On June 24, the Prince and Princess showed their zeal in behalf of their helpless fellow-creatures by opening at Slough the new buildings of the British Orphan Asylum, an institution removed thither from Clapham Rise, in the South London suburbs. The weather was fine, to the joy and comfort of a great assemblage. The usual honours were rendered, and the Prince, in reply to an address, referred to the warm interest felt by the Queen and his lamented father in the prosperity of the asylum. The Princess, standing with her husband at a table in a great marquee, afforded many ladies an excellent opportunity of viewing her as she received from their hands purses containing contributions to the charity. On July 8, the royal pair showed their patriotic feeling by attendance at the meeting of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon, of which the Prince now became a member. The foundation of this great organization, an essential sequel to the establishment, in 1859, of the Volunteer Corps, was due to Lord Elcho, a prominent leader of the volunteer movement, who revived, in this association, the olden English pastime of practising at the archery butts, and continued, as Lord Elcho, and as Earl of Wemyss, to be for many years a zealous supporter of the volunteer element of defence against foreign invasion. The meetings, continuing for a fortnight, were for many years held on Wimbledon Common, south-west of London, and

were transferred, in 1890, to the new and improved ranges at Bisley, in West Surrey. At the first prize meeting, held at Wimbledon in 1860, the Queen fired the first shot from a Whitworth rifle fixed in a rest, and adjusted so as to enable her to register a hit close to the absolute centre of the "bull's-eye". The Prince and Princess saw some of the shooting in the match between the Lords and Commons, the competitors of the Upper House including Lord Dufferin, the Marquess of Abercorn, Lord Suffield (afterwards an intimate friend of the Prince), Lord Wharncliffe, and the Duke of Marlborough. Among those who shot as members of the House of Commons were Lord Elcho and Earl Grosvenor, afterwards Duke of Westminster. On the same day, the Prince "took up his freedom" as a member of the Mercers' Company, the first in rank, and the most ancient, of the City Guilds. Founded in the twelfth century, the Company shows on its records the names of Henry the Eighth, Queen Elizabeth, Sir Richard Whittington, William Caxton, Sir Thomas Gresham, and Dean Colet, founder of St. Paul's School. In his reply to the address the Prince referred to the amount of the Company's charities, and the manner in which its capabilities of doing good had been exercised. The document enrolling him as a Freeman was then presented in a massive, beautifully wrought casket of pure gold. In August, the Prince and Princess took part in an interesting ceremony at Halifax, the opening of the Town Hall, just completed from the designs of Sir Charles Barry, the architect of the Houses of Parliament. The town, containing at the time of this visit about 40,000 people, is first mentioned in the twelfth century, and, becoming at an early date a seat of the cloth manufacture, took its place, in the nineteenth century, in the foremost rank for carpets. The love of the Princess for young people was thoroughly gratified in a stirring scene at the building called the Piece Hall, where a body of nearly 17,000 Sunday-school children, in their best summer array, aided by a strong orchestra, sang the "Hallelujah Chorus", the "Old Hundredth", and "God Save the Queen". We now approach an important domestic event in the lives of the royal pair.



The autumn and part of the winter were spent alternately at Marlborough House and Sandringham, but in the earliest days of 1864 the Prince and Princess were staying at Frogmore House, in Windsor Park. There was a hard frost, and on the afternoon of Friday, January 8, the Princess, naturally a good skater as a native of a cold country, enjoyed the exercise on the ice which covered Virginia Water. The arrival of a child had been expected for the coming March, but the eldest son was born in the evening of the day just named, and his sudden appearance caused him to be wrapped up in cotton wool, in the absence at Marlborough House of the apparel making ready. All went well with mother and child, who was baptized, on the wedding anniversary, in the chapel of Buckingham Palace as "Albert Victor Christian Edward", with the Queen as one of the sponsors, and the aged King of the Belgians present for the last time on such an occasion. The christening robe was of Honiton lace, being the one worn by the child's father. The birth was received by the nation with great satisfaction, both for the sake of the parents, and for dynastic reasons, as lengthening the line of direct male succession to the throne. This auspicious event, which soon showed forth the domestic qualities of the Princess, who was nowhere happier than in her nursery, was quickly followed by public matters which caused her much grief. The outbreak of war between her little native country on the one side, and two first-class Powers, Austria and Prussia, on the other, could only have an issue of a painful kind for the patriotic lady. We are told that one morning a heedless equerry read out at breakfast a telegram announcing a defeat of the Danes. The Princess burst into tears at the news, and the Prince, justly incensed, gave the equerry a smart verbal "dressing down".

On May 18 the Prince made his first public appearance in behalf of literature in presiding at the annual dinner of the Royal Literary Fund. The Prince Consort had been president of that excellent institution, to which the Queen had granted, in commemoration of the fact, the privilege of adding the Crown

to its armorial bearings, and so of assuming the title of "Royal". She was herself the Patron, and during the whole of her reign she annually contributed a hundred guineas to the fund. The young chairman, at this seventy-fifth anniversary, was supported by more than 400 gentlemen of good position in all departments, and the sum of £2328, far exceeding any previous subscription list, was due to his presence and his excellent appeal. The service rendered by the institution may be estimated by the fact that, at the dinner of 1905, the chairman, Dr. Butler, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and formerly Headmaster of Harrow School, was able to state that, since the first dinner, nearly £150,000 had relieved needy persons of the literary class, or, as he expressed it, "had been distributed among deserving men and women". On the occasion under notice, the Prince of Wales dwelt, as an important feature, on the "sacred secrecy" unflinchingly observed in giving timely aid. He also made mention of "an eminent man of letters, whose loss must be deeply deplored in all literary circles. I allude", he said, "to Mr. Thackeray, not so much on account of his works, but because he was an active member of your committee, and always ready to open his purse for the relief of literary men struggling with difficulties." The Prince, in returning thanks for the toast of his health proposed by Earl Stanhope as President of the institution, introduced, at the close of his remarks, a most happy and characteristic touch. There were nearly 400 ladies present in the galleries as spectators and hearers, and the chairman, no doubt with an upward glance, said: "Gentlemen, allow me to propose one more toast. In the presence of a society accustomed to cultivate with such signal success the flowers of literature, it would be unpardonable to forget the flowers of society. I propose the health of 'The Ladies', who, by their numerous attendance here this evening, evince the interest they take in the Literary Fund."

The Prince and Princess gave fresh distinction, on June 4, to the celebration of that day at Eton College, with its "speeches", the fashionable crowd of parents and friends in



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ABERGELDIE CASTLE





the "playing fields", the pretty procession of boats with coxswains wearing flower-wreathed hats, and other picturesque matters. They were also present at the race meeting known as "Glorious Goodwood", thereby showing the Prince's interest in the "turf", on which his horses were, in later days, to win some notable prizes. On July 16 the heir apparent gave the first sign of the keen and valuable interest which he was to take in the work of hospitals. He and the Princess were together when, at the London Hospital, the great charitable institution in the "East End", he laid the foundation stone of a new west wing, to be called the "Alexandra". In August they started for a period of relaxation in the air of the Highlands, taking up their abode at Abergeldie Castle, which was for many years their Scottish residence. This ancient edifice, with a turreted square tower and some modern additions of various dates, is situated in Deeside, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Balmoral, near a beautiful wood of drooping birches. The river flows close behind the castle, which, approached by an avenue of fine larches, with two noble Scotch firs at the entrance gate, has a picturesque appearance from the road to Braemar. The first floor is composed of one large vaulted room, and there are smaller apartments in the tower above, to which a winding staircase of stone leads the way. The Prince and Princess entertained many visitors during their stay, among whom was Dr. Norman Macleod. It was at this time that they made the acquaintance of their future elder son-in-law, whose mother, the Countess of Fife, was then at the family residence, Mar Lodge, about 15 miles farther up the Dee valley. In September, the royal pair journeyed by the *Victoria and Albert* from Dundee to Copenhagen, taking with them the infant Albert Victor to show to the young mother's parents, who had become King and Queen of Denmark. The Prince was at some shooting parties, and we read that he perpetrated an act horrifying to the ordinary British sportsman in knocking over two foxes during his stay at Bernsdorf, the royal country seat. Some of the teeth were afterwards set as breastpins. From Elsinore the

yacht conveyed the tourists to beautiful Stockholm, lying where Lake Mälär mingles its waters with those of the Baltic. This northern capital stretches far from east to west in water which at once separates and unites the different quarters of the city, as it lies between shores and islands sometimes rocky and tree-grown, sometimes open and under tillage. The King (Charles XV) and Queen of Sweden and Norway were, of course, the entertainers of the Prince and Princess. There again the Prince took part in several excursions for game, and on one occasion seventeen stags, six hares, and ten foxes were shot. The baby was then sent home in charge of his nurse, Mrs. Blackburn, and the Countess de Grey, while his father and mother returned by way of Germany and Belgium, visiting their relatives, Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, at Darmstadt, and spending a few days at Brussels. On reaching Britain, they went off to Balmoral Castle, as guests of the Queen. About the middle of October the family took up their autumnal residence at Sandringham, a place which now demands special notice.

In the north-west of Norfolk, in a region which contains many square miles of flat country, being land reclaimed from the olden fens and marshes, is a district, between King's Lynn and Hunstanton, showing a delightful variety of landscape. There may be seen one part of a range of chalk hills; an extensive area of heathland never tilled; a river-valley of much charm; plantations; many acres of salt marsh; stretches of mud-flat by the great inlet called the Wash; and, in beautiful contrast, parks displaying noble ancient oaks. The tourist who wisely and healthfully takes knowledge afoot of his native land in that region views cornfields alongside upland woods, heaths golden in spring with abundant flowers of furze, purple in autumn with heather in its richest bloom. In this part of East Anglia lies Sandringham, known over all the world now for many years from its illustrious residents. In Domesday Book the place figures as Sand Dersingham, meaning "the hamlet of the sand and water meadow", and thus, no doubt, accurately descriptive of its then actual surroundings. The estate lies about 7 miles





SANDRINGHAM HOUSE



north-east of King's Lynn, and about 9 due south of Hunstanton, being a little over 100 miles, by road, from London. The area of the property is about 11,000 acres, and from some hilly ground the spectator sees not only the varied landscape just described, but across the waters of the Wash he descries one of the most picturesque objects of its class in the kingdom. This is the upper portion of Boston parish church, dedicated to St. Botolph, patron of sailors, the landmark called by seafarers "Boston Stump". The tower of this grand church, one of the largest without aisles in England, rises to 290 ft., and is crowned by a beautiful lantern, an octagon visible 40 miles away. The possession of the Sandringham estate by the Prince of Wales was due to the ability and care of his father in managing the property of the Duchy of Cornwall in such wise that, in 1862, the Norfolk domain could be purchased for the sum of £220,000 (in 1861) out of the savings, from the Hon. C. Spencer Cowper, a stepson of the Premier, Lord Palmerston. The property was then one of about 8000 acres, with a nominal rental of £7000 a year, and it was in very bad condition. The game preserving (or "shooting"), and the outlying parts of the estate, had been utterly neglected. It was at the old, small house, after some improvements and additions, that the Prince and Princess lived in the autumn of 1864. It will be seen hereafter how, at a vast expenditure on buildings, gardens, the home-farms, and the parks, Sandringham became at all points a model estate, when the former residence had been pulled down.

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## CHAPTER XI

## THREE BUSY YEARS

1865-1867

The year 1865 was one of typical activity in the life of the young Prince, as regards his social movements and the part which he played on public occasions as distinct from political affairs. In January we find him, with the Princess, visiting the Earl of Leicester at Holkham Hall, near Wells, on the northern coast of Norfolk. The mansion and the estates came, in 1774, to the famous "Coke of Holkham". At the time when Mr. Thomas Coke acquired possession the rental was £2200 a year. The new owner showed himself to be a most enterprising and successful improver of soil and stock by the skilful application of scientific methods, and by 1819 the rental had increased exactly tenfold, besides timber, poles, and underwood annually worth £3000. Mr. Coke, M.P. for Norfolk county from 1774 to 1832, was created Earl of Leicester by Queen Victoria at her accession in due recognition of his services as a real benefactor to the nation both by achievement and example, and he is commemorated by a Corinthian pillar in Holkham Park erected by public subscription. The extensive waste of Holkham Heath, and another large tract reclaimed by him from the sea-sands, were made to grow grain and turnips for large flocks of sheep on ground where a man who knew once jestingly said: "You might see two rabbits fighting for one blade of grass". There can be little doubt that the son of the Prince Consort, inheriting a proclivity to good works as a country landlord, received further inspiration from so splendid a model in a neighbouring domain. The Hall stands in a park of 3200 acres, of which about one-third part is wooded, affording a ride of 7 miles through groves of firs and other trees, or amid evergreen shrubs whose foliage is, even in winter, very attractive. The plantations and pleasure grounds are well laid out, and there is an ornamental lake 1000 yards long, on which the Prince, during

his stay, enjoyed duck shooting. The host of the Prince and Princess was son of the first Earl, succeeding his father in 1842, the Countess being the eldest daughter of Mr. Whitbread, of Cardington, near Bedford. The Earl was Keeper of the Privy Seal to the Prince from 1870 till his accession in 1901, and was Lord-lieutenant of Norfolk for the sixty years, 1846-1906.

The Hall is a fine building, begun in 1722, and finished by the first Earl. There are two fronts, each 344 ft. long, with a Corinthian portico. The picture gallery contains many fine works, especially some of Claude Lorraine, and there is also a statue gallery, with a good library of printed books and MSS. The Royal visitors had a drive of 25 miles from Sandringham in an open phaeton, the Prince taking the reins. They reached Holkham about 5 p.m., when it was dark, passing under the triumphal arch erected at the southern entrance of the domain amid loud cheers from folk gathered from all the countryside. On one evening of their stay a grand ball was given to 400 people, the company arriving at the entrance hall on the north front, in the grand "Egyptian Hall", 38 ft. by 31 ft., and 40 ft. in height, with fine Ionic columns in marble, and a ceiling in hexagonal mosaics. On the walls are represented the Trial of Socrates, the Death of Germanicus, and other scenes in alto- and bas-relief, with statues of Flora, Apollo, and other mythological deities in the niches set off by fine plants and lamps. At the south side of this hall a flight of 18 steps leads up to the grand saloon, 48 ft. by 28 ft., and 32 ft. high; and this, with the east and west drawing-rooms, made the ball-room. The Princess wore a white lace skirt over a white dress, trimmed with velvet and scarlet geraniums, and diamonds as her adornings. She had for her special use the one couch placed in the saloon, and danced with a few select gentlemen of the visitors staying at the Hall, who were distinguished by wearing a sprig of fern. In one set of quadrilles she had as partner a younger son of her host and hostess, and amused him by pretending that he must teach her the steps. The royal pair so much enjoyed this entertainment that they did not retire until 3 a.m.

A few days later the Prince made a visit to Merton Hall, the seat of Lord Walsingham, about 10 miles from Thetford, in West Norfolk. The house is a red brick Elizabethan residence in a large park, with a fine display of pines and firs. The host, a zealous practical agriculturist, had a famous flock of Southdown sheep, which the Prince, with his hereditary love of stock, carefully inspected. There was a great "meet" of the West Norfolk foxhounds, with nearly 500 horsemen in the field, and other visitors in over 200 carriages of various styles. The Prince rode his favourite chestnut, and cleared awkward fences and ditches in good style.

Early in February the Prince and his wife were at Osborne with the Queen, and then made their way to Marlborough House, where they remained for much of the London season. On March 1 the Prince visited, in an informal way, the South London Working Men's Industrial Exhibition at the Lambeth Baths. He was received by the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Longley), the Earl of Shaftesbury, Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart. (a former friend of the Prince Consort, and an active official promoter of the great Exhibitions of 1851 and 1862), the Reverend Newman Hall (an able and energetic Nonconformist divine), and other gentlemen. The success of the enterprise was assured by the presence of the royal gentleman who thus showed his interest in the working classes, and made many purchases of the results of their toil. Before leaving he expressed the great pleasure which he had received, and his hearty wish for the increase and success of such displays of industry. During his visit he had noticed a handsome perambulator constructed so as to be drawn by a wooden horse in front, whose legs could be moved in a kind of trot by a lever—an excellent toy to amuse a child. The exhibitor begged the Prince to accept it, but he smilingly declined this, and purchased it for his little son Albert Victor. On April 4 the heir apparent, accompanied by his brother Prince Alfred and the Duke of Cambridge, opened a portion of a great public work of vital importance to the health of the capital. This was the southern outfall, at Crossness, about 2 miles below Woolwich, of the



Metropolitan Main Drainage system. The royal party went down the river by steamer from the Speaker's stairs at Westminster, and first inspected the northern outfall at Barking, where the engineer, Mr. (afterwards Sir Joseph) Bazalgette, explained operations to the distinguished company. At Crossness he gave particulars concerning the whole vast scheme. After viewing the reservoirs, engine-rooms, and other works, the Prince turned a handle and set the huge machinery in motion, pumping the sewage from the great underground receptacles into the reservoirs for subsequent discharge, after some purification, into the river. In a brief speech he complimented the engineers and Mr. Thwaites, Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, on the completion of the great undertaking which should render London one of the healthiest cities in Europe—an expression of confidence, we may observe, which has been amply justified.

Early in May the Prince made his first state visit to Ireland, a country where, as we have seen, he was already known as a tourist with his parents, and as soldier under training at the Curragh Camp. The main object of his journey was that of opening the Dublin International Exhibition. He crossed from Holyhead to Kingstown on the *Victoria and Albert*, attended by the Duke of Cambridge, Earl Spencer, Lord Dufferin, and Sir Robert Peel, and was met on landing by the Lord-lieutenant (Lord Wodehouse), who conducted him to the Viceregal Lodge in the Phoenix Park. The city was brilliantly illuminated at night. On the following day, May 9, that appointed for the ceremony, a bright sun shone on the loyal crowds in the streets as the procession went to the great buildings, of brick and stone, in Earlsford Terrace, comprising large and small concert halls, a lecture hall, spacious picture galleries, two annexes for machinery, and a third for carriages. In connection with the main building was the Crystal Palace or Winter Garden, made of iron and glass, 165 ft. in height. The southern portion was nearly 450 ft. long by 84 ft. broad, and the northern 270 ft. by 186 ft., with a wide gallery, 1700 ft. in length, running all round the interior. An outer gallery commanded a view of the terrace and beautiful pleasure grounds of

13 acres. The ceremony took place in the great hall, adorned with the flags of all nations, and filled with a very distinguished assembly, including the Duke of Leinster, the Earl of Rosse, and the other chief Irish nobles. The procession comprised, among other official personages, the Lord Mayors of Dublin, London, and York, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and the Mayors of Londonderry, Cork, and Waterford. When the Prince took his seat in the state chair, an orchestra of 1000 performers gave the National Anthem, followed by loud cheers, and the Duke of Leinster then read the address of the Committee. The heir apparent, on behalf of the Queen, expressed their joint desire to assist in every measure designed for the happiness and welfare of the Irish people, and his own resolve to imitate his father's example in striving to advance international prosperity and to develop the powers and resources of his own country. He also declared that the Princess, like himself, regretted her inability to accompany him on that occasion, anxious as she was to come among the Irish people, "assured of the welcome she will receive". The great organ then joined in the Hundredth Psalm, and, after another address on the origin and history of the Exhibition, and the presentation to the Prince of the key of the building, there arose the strains of Handel's Coronation Anthem and of music from Haydn's *Creation*. Then came a tour of the Exhibition, and on the Prince's return to the dais in the centre of the nave, Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise* was given with grand effect. The chief royal personage then rose and commanded Sir Bernard Burke, "Ulster King-of-Arms", to declare the Exhibition open. The sound of the flourish of trumpets was a signal to the outside, and a rocket flew up from the grounds, whereupon the forts and batteries and the men-of-war off Kingstown fired salvoes of guns. In the evening a ball at the Mansion House was attended by 3000 guests. The "Round Room", with its domed roof, was finely decorated in blue, white, and gold, and there was a gay and festive scene of dancing, supper, and still more lively dancing, the Prince being actively engaged until 2.15 a.m. On May 10, at a review in Phoenix Park, on the ground known as





THE REVIEW OF TROOPS IN PHOENIX PARK, DUBLIN

MAY 10TH, 1865

From a Drawing by W. R. S. Stott





the "Fifteen Acres", the chief spectator wore the uniform of his regiment, the 10th Hussars. We may note here a novel incident, sure to be gratifying to the Prince, which attended his return from the Exhibition to the Viceregal Lodge. A very comely young lady, forcing her way on horseback through the thick crowd close up to the royal carriage, cried out: "I shall go home quite happy now that I have seen the Prince!" It is needless to say that the object of this loyal demonstration specially saluted with a bright smile and raised hat so charming an exponent of Irish feeling.

Little rest is there for royalty that, in a democratic age, worthily strives to keep pace with the demands of public institutions, festivals, and celebrations of every class. Scarcely returned to Marlborough House from the Irish capital, the Prince, on May 17, attended at St. Paul's Cathedral the two hundred and eleventh annual festival of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy. The gathering under the dome, always a most impressive sight, one that has often greatly moved foreign visitors to London, was unusually brilliant, owing to his presence as Royal Steward of the year. The full choral service was performed by men and boys from various cathedrals assisting the choirs of St. Paul's, the Chapel Royal, St. James's, Westminster Abbey, and St. George's Chapel, Windsor. There were three anthems, including a special one with words by the venerable Dr. Milman, Dean of St. Paul's, famous as a writer of ecclesiastical history, and of good credit as a poet, the music being by Mr. (afterwards Sir John) Goss, organist of the Cathedral. The sermon was preached by Dr. Goodwin, Dean of Ely, afterwards Bishop of Carlisle. In the evening a dinner took place, as usual, in the splendid hall of the Merchant Taylors' Company, the Lord Mayor presiding, supported by the Prince and a great and distinguished body of guests. In reply to the toast of his health, his Royal Highness referred to the distractions of poverty for men of education like the clergy, specially needing repose of mind for study and reflection, and for due attention to their arduous duties among the sick and suffering. He dwelt also on the wise and delicate secrecy observed in

the charity aiding the widows and orphans of the Anglican Church ministers.

Two days pass away, and we find the Prince engaged in aiding the cause of a truly beneficent exhibition, that of the International Reformatory Union. This display, the model and origin of many similar local exhibitions, was held in the Agricultural Hall at Islington. The Prince was Patron of the Union, the President being one of the best and ablest philanthropists of all times and nations, the "good Earl of Shaftesbury". It was honest work, as a great antidote to criminal tendencies, which, with most wise and benevolent purpose, Prince and Earl strove to further on this occasion. The articles shown were the actual handiwork of poor boys and girls of the lowest classes, many of them utterly destitute, devoid of all hope as to any usefulness in life, until they were taken in hand and taught various industries, in the truest and highest spirit of Christianity, by men as discerning as they were patriotic. For all visitors of any humane feeling, it was a beautiful and touching sight to view, in workshops under the galleries and in the centre of the hall, reformed and industrious girls and boys engaged, as in their respective institutions, in making rope mats and netting, brushes and brooms, paper bags and envelopes, baskets and pillow lace, and engaged in needlework and in preparing firewood. There were sorters and cutters of rags, menders of chairs, makers of sacks, strawworkers, shoeblacks, bootmakers, tailors, embroiderers, knitters, and ironers. Under the absurd old system of prison discipline which sought the cure of crime in punishment which might, or might not, deter from evildoing, instead of in work which might, and often did, allure to better courses, these busy young people would have been turning cranks ingloriously contrived to register the number of revolutions, or have been, literally, grinding air in a treadmill. The exhibition was rightly called "international", for not only, as Lord Shaftesbury stated in his address, were objects contributed by workers in above 200 separate institutions in London and other great towns of the United Kingdom, but articles of the



same origin were also sent from Canada and the United States, most European countries, and even from Egypt and Syria. The meeting was opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and some sacred music was sung by about 1000 children from the Reformatory and Refuge Schools. The Prince, in replying to Lord Shaftesbury's address, referred to the welcome presence of representatives of foreign countries, to his own great satisfaction in taking part, and to the value of these international exhibitions in promoting the growth of those Christian and kindly feelings towards each other which we ought to pray should animate the whole of the nations of the world. He then declared the exhibition opened, and, spending much time in inspection, made many varied purchases, to the delight of the youthful manufacturers, from both the boys' and the girls' stalls; those from the latter including crochet work and lace for the Princess of Wales. The event was commemorated by a beautiful medal, designed by Mr. J. B. Wyon, displaying on one side the Prince, and on the other the initials "Reformatory and Refuge Union", with the motto "To seek and to save that which was lost". This medal, at the close of the exhibition, was given to the representatives of the British and foreign institutions which had contributed articles for display.

The above event took place on May 19, and in three days more the unwearied royal philanthropist was seen at the East End, opening a "new wing" of one of those admirable institutions known as Sailors' Homes. The one now visited was that at the London Docks. The foundation stone of the new dormitory had been laid in 1863 by Lord Palmerston, this portion of the edifice being fitted to accommodate 174 men, with special provision for the officers of the mercantile marine. The whole building became thus capable of containing over 500 mariners for comfort, instruction, and for protection from the "landsharks" who infest all great seaports. The Prince was welcomed in the most loyal way by the dense population of the region visited, where a general holiday was made. The distinguished company present in the building included some of

the Foreign Ministers, as the Home is open to foreign seamen in the British mercantile service. The Royal visitor was received by officers of the Naval Reserve in the full dress of their handsome uniform, the guard of honour being furnished by the Royal Artillery Company, and the bands including that of the Grenadier Guards. On the very next day, May 23, the Prince was doing good work in the north-west of London, laying the foundation stone of a new wing of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington. The Prince Consort had performed the like ceremony on June 28, 1845, in regard to the main building of the institution. The new portion was to be called the "Albert Edward Wing", and two of the wards were to be named the "Alexandra" and the "Albert Victor". The Bishop of London (Dr. Tait) offered prayers, children sang the "Old Hundredth", young ladies presented purses in aid, and the band of the Victoria Rifles ended the proceedings with the Danish National Hymn and "God save the Queen". The occasion was notable as an early instance of the deep interest taken by the Prince in the work of hospitals.

There was still no respite for the unwearied representative of the Crown in public functions of most varied kind. On May 24, the Queen's birthday, the Prince visited the *Great Eastern* steamship, which was lying off Sheerness. As this vessel has become a mere name to the present generation, we may devote a little space to an account of her origin, character, services, and fate. The great civil engineer, one of the most distinguished of the age in which he lived, Isambard Kingdom Brunel, laid, in 1852, a scheme for a "great ship" before the directors of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company. His proposal was accepted, and the work was begun at Millwall, on the Thames, in December, 1853. Great difficulties were met with in the construction, and many delays were caused. When she was completed, several attempts at launching failed, and it was not until January 31, 1858, that the gigantic vessel was got afloat in the river. We may here observe that her designer, overworked and worn out with the troubles of the launching,

died before she made her first voyage. The dimensions of the vessel were, in that period of marine architecture, truly portentous. Built of iron, she was 680 ft. long "between the perpendiculars", nearly 83 ft. broad, over 48 ft. deep, of nearly 19,000 gross tonnage, and propelled by a screw and paddle at 13 knots, moved by engines of 11,000 indicated horse-power. Save for one very important purpose, the big ship proved a failure. We have seen something of her early misfortunes. An air of ridicule was attached to the change in her name. The promoters of the enterprise had called her the *Leviathan*, but an outcry arose from the Puritanical part of society that this was an impious use of a word that occurs in the Old Testament scriptures, and the directors of the shipping company sought to gain favour with these sanctimonious people by abandoning the first designation. During 1858, after the launch, and for some months of 1859, the internal fittings were executed as fast as cash could be obtained. Then her owners, the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, were obliged to "go into liquidation", and a "Great Ship Company" of credulous investors bought the vessel and found capital to complete their bargain. On September 8, 1859, the *Great Eastern* left the Thames on her trial trip. She was passing Hastings when the tremendous explosion of a "jacket" or casing to heat the water before it entered the boilers, blew up the centre of the vessel, and tore away one of the five enormous funnels, each weighing 8 tons, as well as much of the decks and cabins and steam gearing. A vessel of much less size and strength of construction would have promptly gone to the bottom. Seven persons were killed and others wounded, and the first voyage of the great ship abruptly ended off Portland. In January, 1860, as she lay in Southampton Water, her commander, Captain Harrison, perished from the capsizing of a small boat in a sudden squall. At last, in June, 1860, the vessel left Southampton for a run across the Atlantic. The engines worked up to a speed of 14 knots, or nearly 16 miles, an hour, a good average in those days. She was a bad investment for passenger and cargo traffic, from the length of time needed to



obtain a paying amount of human and commercial freight for each trip, but she was once or twice employed by the Government for the conveyance of troops. In one of these voyages, with over 3000 soldiers on board, as she ran from the Mersey to Canada, the vessel was caught in a storm about 300 miles to the west of Cape Clear, and so far disabled as to be compelled to put back to Kinsale, in County Cork. This mishap settled the fate of the *Great Eastern* as a troopship. The War Office could not again entrust her with so large and so costly a burden of soldiers. The travelling and trading public would by this time have nothing to do with the unwieldy mistake, in a commercial sense, which had cost, from first to last, before the disastrous trial trip, about three-quarters of a million sterling. The great ship, however, found in the end her only proper work through the development of submarine telegraphy, which had begun, for this country, in 1851, between Dover and Calais. She was safe against sinking in any weather; in an ordinary sea-way she was very steady; and she had unrivalled capacity for stowing away the huge masses of submarine wires needed for ocean telegraphy. She was successfully employed in laying the earlier Atlantic cables, and, after 1869, in the same work on Atlantic waters, in the Red Sea, and in the Mediterranean. When the bulk of this work, as then needed, was finished, and after further failure in attempts to obtain passengers and cargo, the vessel became, in 1884, a coal hulk at Gibraltar, and was then sold in London by auction for about a thirtieth of her original cost. She then made some money for her new owners as a "show" ship, and in November, 1888, sold by auction at Liverpool in lots extending over five days of sale, she fetched nearly £60,000. Such was the vessel now visited by the Prince of Wales at the very outset of her cable-laying career. He arrived on board in time to inspect the operation of stowing away the last part of the Atlantic cable, 2250 miles long and weighing 5000 tons, in the three great wrought-iron tanks placed forward, amidships, and aft. He was accompanied by the Duke of Sutherland and other friends, and by four of the Canadian Ministry—Mr.

(afterwards Sir George) Cartier, Mr. (afterwards Sir Alexander) Galt, Mr. Brown, and Mr. (afterwards Sir John) Macdonald. The occasion was one of great colonial importance, as well as of international interest in regard to Europe and the United States. In watching the coiling of the huge telegraphic rope in the tank placed amidships, the Prince observed it coming slowly down through a hole in the deck above and being stowed away by the men, and pressed carefully down in regular circles, with a vigilant eye lest one portion should stick to and lift another and make a "kink" that would be as fatal to the conducting power as if it were broken. A message was sent through one of the coils, representing in its length the distance from the *Great Eastern*, as she lay, to Valentia Island, off County Kerry, now the station of several transatlantic cables. The words transmitted were "God save the Queen", which were received in a few seconds at the other end of the coil, a fact speaking highly for the probable success of the great enterprise. The Prince took away with him specimens of cable in various stages of manufacture. It is well to note here that this cable parted in mid-ocean, but another was laid successfully by the *Great Eastern* in the following year, and the portion lost in 1865, picked up by dredging from the same vessel, was pieced on to make a second rope of communication.

On June 3 came an event which gave to the public the reason why the Princess of Wales had not accompanied her husband to Dublin in the previous month. This was the birth of a second child and son, Prince George Frederick Ernest Albert, who became in time Duke of York, then Prince of Wales, and in 1910 King under the title of George V. The birth of another male heir in the direct line of succession was naturally a matter of great interest and satisfaction to a loyal people. The Princess and her child made excellent progress; and on June 5 the father is found displaying what was to prove his life-long regard for the dramatic art and its professors by his presence, near Woking, to inaugurate and formally open the Royal Dramatic College. The foundation stone of this building had been laid by the Prince

Consort on June 1, 1860, at the pretty village of Maybury. The Prince of Wales, on his arrival in the afternoon, found the buildings and grounds decked with hundreds of flags and banners, while several bands, including that of the Hon. Artillery Corps, were playing to amuse the great gathering, which comprised many distinguished actors and actresses. The Union Jack on the tower of the great hall had been replaced by the Royal Standard, and the usual salute was fired. The Prince was accompanied by the Duke of St. Albans and the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, and attended by General Knollys and Colonel Keppel. On the station platform he had been received by Mr. Benjamin Webster, the veteran actor, Master of the College, who was surrounded by public dramatic favourites, such as Messrs. Creswick (Deputy-Master), Buckstone, Compton, Alfred Wigan, and J. L. Toole, with Mr. (afterwards Sir) Theodore Martin, and other well-known men in the literary world. When the procession reached the Hall, Mr. Webster handed a golden key to the royal visitor, who, opening the door, was then conducted to a dais draped with crimson velvet and decorated with his plume. The Hall already contained the nucleus of a library and gallery of works of literature and art illustrative of British drama. Ladies, of whom Miss Buckstone was the first to step forward, presented purses in behalf of the institution. The Prince then declared the Hall open amidst loud cheers. The musical performances which concluded the ceremony were entrusted to artists of the highest class, whose names must be familiar to our older readers. Miss Louisa Pyne, one of the most accomplished vocalists in our musical records, sang the air from *Lurline*, "Sweet Spirit, Hear my Prayer". Madame Grisi, queen of the Italian lyric stage, gave the air "Qui la voce" from *Puritani*, at the close of which the Prince withdrew from the scene. At the later concert Madame Arabella Goddard played "Home, sweet Home" on the pianoforte; Madame Grisi sang "The Last Rose of Summer"; and the popular tenor Mr. William Harrison, the able colleague of Louisa Pyne in English opera, gave his aid. The Prince, in replying to the address describing the objects of the institution,



had expressed his pleasure in the prospect that "as the inevitable hour approaches, he who has so often ministered to amusement, blended with instruction, will here find a retreat open for age and its infirmities in grateful recognition of a debt due by the world at large"; and he had adverted to the last object of the asylum as being for actors, "to cheer their evening of life, and to embellish its closing scenes with the books, memorials, and records of their art, that they may again live in the past, and make their final exit in a spirit of thankfulness to God and their fellow-creatures." The college building is now used as an Oriental Institute.

The Prince, on June 11, was present at a banquet given in his honour by the Fishmongers' Company in their hall at London Bridge. He was already a member of the Company, and the Prime Warden, Mr. James Spicer, proposing, as Chairman, the health of the Prince and Princess, fitly alluded to the esteem and affection with which the Prince was regarded by Her Majesty's subjects for his amiable manners and kindly disposition, and notably for the fact that he was following so closely in his father's footsteps in the promotion of industrial exhibitions. On July 3 he performed the ceremony of distributing prizes at Wellington College, near Sandhurst, in the south-east corner of Berkshire. This institution was founded in 1853, in memory of the great Duke, from funds raised by public subscription. The first stone of the buildings was laid, three years later, by Queen Victoria, and she "opened" them in 1859. There are ninety scholarships for the sons of deceased army officers, in addition to many exhibitions and "open scholarships", and several hundred boys receive the benefits of the school, the "foundationers" at a cost of £10 annually for board and education. In returning thanks at the luncheon, for the proposal of his health, to Mr. Benson (afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury), the headmaster, the Prince referred to the great interest taken in the institution by the Queen, as formerly by the Prince Consort, "to whose exertions," he said, "the college really owes its origin". He then made the announcement that the Earl of Derby (the Earl, we observe, who was soon to become Prime Minister for the third

time), one of the governors, present on this occasion, had resolved to devote the profits of his translation of Homer (the *Iliad*) to the production of a prize to be given annually to the "founditioner" who, within the year of his leaving the school, should in the opinion of the headmaster be the most industrious and well-conducted pupil. The hearty deliverance of these and other remarks aroused much enthusiasm in the audience. Lord Derby also spoke to good purpose. We note that the Prince, who became one of the governors, always took a personal and active part in the affairs of the institution. We pass on to the latter days of July, and find the Prince and Princess touring in the south-west of England.

The royal party steamed from the Isle of Wight in the yacht *Osborne* for Plymouth, where they were received in the Sound with a royal salute from British and French squadrons of ironclads and other vessels. For three days they were the guests of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe at his seat on the Cornwall shore. During this time visits were made to the Royal Agricultural Society's Exhibition near Devonport, and to some of the men-of-war in the Sound. A trip was also taken up the beautiful river Tamar, under the famous Albert Tubular Bridge, crossing the river to Saltash on the Cornish bank. This wonder of engineering was constructed between 1853 and 1859 from the designs of Mr. I. K. Brunel, the designer of the *Great Eastern*, and was opened in the latter year by the Prince Consort. This fine structure, now greatly surpassed by other bridges, is 2240 ft. in length and 260 ft. in height from foundations to summit. Above Saltash the river presents the aspect of a noble wood-fringed lake. Early on July 22 the *Osborne* left for the Cornish coast and anchored before noon in Fowey Harbour, a broad sheet of water sheltered by lofty cliffs, and narrowing inland between well-wooded shores. Visits were there made to some silver-smelting works and a neighbouring mine, and also to Place House, or "the Place" (meaning "Palace"), the seat of the Treffry family. The olden part dates from the fifteenth century, the newer portion being a careful enlargement and restoration

made by Mr. Joseph Treffry, a very able and notable public benefactor who died in 1850. The Prince and Princess also drove to Restormel Castle, a picturesque landmark of ivy-clad ruins, once belonging to the Earls of Cornwall. From Fowey they steamed away to Penzance, and the *Osborne* was moored on the western side of St. Michael's Mount. The royal pair climbed up the craggy path to the top of the Mount, 250 ft. high, and enjoyed the fine view of land and sea. It is needless here, as always, to refer to the loyal receptions everywhere accorded. At Penzance the Princess named a new-made route "Alexandra Road", and declared it open for public use. The Prince, with the Duke of Sutherland, paid a promised visit to the Scilly Isles, landing on St. Mary's, and also saw Mr. Augustus Smith, the proprietor, at Tresco Abbey, on the island of that name. On the return of the *Osborne* to Penzance the Princess went aboard, and the yacht started for Falmouth.

We must go back a little to record a remarkable experience of the Prince and Princess during their Cornish trip. A few miles northwards from Land's End, near St. Just, lies the Botallack tin mine. The scene on the occasion of their visit was picturesque. All the ladies and gentlemen of the party were attired in loose dresses of white flannels. The Princess and Lady Elizabeth St. Aubyn, her hostess at the Mount, rode in a donkey-chaise along the narrow path from the counting-house to the top of the steep sloping timber-way of descent, while the Prince and others walked behind. Above them on the right were high jagged weather-beaten rocks, with here and there rude constructions of planks and beams connected with the working of the mine. On the left were sheer deep perpendicular chasms over which hung the upper works and wooden platform at the head of the shaft. At the base of the lofty rugged cliffs, the water was surging into foam against black rocks covered with seaweed. As the royal party passed along the path a line of volunteers from each corps of the Duke of Cornwall Artillery presented arms, and the band struck up the National Anthem. On reaching the mouth of the shaft, the



Princess, in her white flannel dress, and wearing a coarse straw hat trimmed with blue, took her place with Mr. St. Aubyn on the lower seat of a car, with the Prince and a brakesman on the next seat behind. The "captain" of the mine directed the vehicle, which descended gently down a steep inclined plane, and in a moment or two the party had quitted daylight for the darkness of the shaft about 1200 ft. deep. The bottom level of the mine extended then, horizontally, for about half a mile beneath the sea; and the roar of the water overhead in rough weather is sometimes such as to startle even the well-inured workers. The dark narrow passages are traversed by the light of candles carried by each person. A portion of the mine is the property of the Prince of Wales. The underground visit occupied over an hour, and then the tourists emerged back into view amid loud cheers. The Princess looked rather heated, but much pleased with her novel experience underground. After luncheon the Prince drove with his suite to Land's End, passing through the gaily-decked little town of St. Just. At the southwestern extremity of England he alighted and went on foot to the uttermost rocks, the crowd remaining above while he and his party passed down the grassy slope to the perpendicular precipice 60 ft. above the sea tossing and heaving with the Atlantic swell even in that calm sunny weather. Many vessels were sailing by, and the sea-birds screamed and kept a sullen watch on the intruders. The Longships Lighthouse was conspicuous in its 50 ft. of height perched on a rock rising 60 ft. above water. Close by Land's End is the grim Cape Cornwall, with Whitesand Bay below, memorable for the landing of the usurper Stephen, and of Prince John on his return from Ireland, and of Perkin Warbeck when he aimed at the crown of the first Tudor. The party then drove back to Penzance. It was after this that the trip was made to the Scilly Isles, and on the return a run was made up the river Fal, with a crowd of boats and yachts in attendance, as far as the splendid mansion of Lord Falmouth, Tregothnan House, on high ground commanding a view of the windings of the river and of the noble expanse of Falmouth

Harbour. The neighbourhood is richly wooded, and the house, with a square central tower, has its roofline broken by many fantastic chimneys and quaint turrets, being a combination of the details of "Tudor" and "Early English".

Ever on the move, the Prince and Princess, early in August, started for York, where they visited an agricultural exhibition, and the Prince unveiled, in the cathedral, a memorial window to the Prince Consort. Thence they proceeded to Ripon, and went to Studley Royal, the seat of Earl de Grey and Ripon, afterwards Secretary of State for India, Viceroy of India, and first Marquess of Ripon. Near this mansion the visitors saw one of the gems of the country in its own class—Fountains Abbey. This religious house, founded before the middle of the twelfth century, is one of the largest and best-preserved Cistercian houses in England. The church stands a short distance north of a stream, and the buildings stretch down to, and even across the water. The choir was built in the thirteenth, the tower added early in the sixteenth century. Much of the abbot's house, the finest example of its class in the kingdom, stands on arches across the little river, and the hall, 170 ft. by 70 ft., was one of the most spacious and magnificent apartments in mediæval times, divided by 18 pillars and arches, with 3 aisles. This beautiful and interesting relic of mediæval architecture offers every variety of style from Norman to Perpendicular.

In the same month (August, 1856) the Prince and his wife went to Germany, travelling in strict incognito as "Baron and Baroness Renfrew". By way of Cologne and Coblenz they journeyed to the ducal hunting castle of Reinhardsbrunn, a modern residence built out of the ruins of a Benedictine monastery, close to Friedrichroda, a favourite summer resort in the grand-duchy of Coburg-Gotha, at the north foot of the Thuringian forest. The place is surrounded by fir-clad heights and contains many handsome villa residences. Their stay there ended with the main object of their visit, the inauguration, at Coburg, of the bronze statute of the Prince Consort, by Theed, which adorns the market place. Thence they proceeded to the château

of Rappenheim, near Frankfort-on-the-Main, as guests of the Duke and Princess Mary of Cambridge. In September, on returning from Germany, the Prince and Princess spent a few days at Marlborough House, and thence went for a sojourn at their Highland home, Abergeldie Castle. In the middle of October, on their way southwards, a brief stay was made with the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe at Floors Castle, near Kelso. The town is beautifully placed at the junction of the Tweed and Teviot rivers, and has some interesting abbey ruins, partly Norman, partly Early Pointed in style. The bridge which looks down on the waters of the rippling Tweed is one of five arches by the famous Rennie. The name of the ducal mansion is a corruption from the original *Palace de Fleurs*. It stands on the north side of the Tweed, 1 mile west of Kelso, with a sloping lawn and terraces in front. The original building was a massive structure by Sir John Vanbrugh early in the eighteenth century, but modern improvements by Mr. W. H. Playfair, of Edinburgh, made it one of the finest "Tudor" houses in Scotland. The domain includes an extensive park with fine old timber. A distinguished company was assembled at the Castle, and the amusements during the royal visit included Kelso races, a banquet, a ball, and an excursion up the river to Roxburghe Castle, or rather to the green mound which marks the site of the former extensive and important fortress, a bulwark of the Border in earlier days, lying on the isthmus formed by the junction of the Tweed and Teviot. The spot is pointed out on the margin of the Tweed where James II of Scotland was killed in 1460 by the bursting of a cannon during his siege of the fortress. After a day's shooting and a fishing-party up the river, the royal pair returned to London. It was at this time, on October 18, that the Prince lost a special, valued friend by the death of the Premier, Lord Palmerston, at his country seat, Brocket Hall, in Hertfordshire. This distinguished statesman, who had always taken a great interest in the progress and education of the Prince and had often been consulted by him, was duly honoured by a public funeral in Westminster Abbey.



Early in November the Prince and his wife left Marlborough House for Knowsley Hall, the seat of the Earl and Countess of Derby, about 5 miles north-east of Liverpool. The house contains valuable pictures by Rembrandt, Rubens, Claude Lorraine, Teniers, and other famous painters. A visit was made to the great commercial town, and, after an excursion on the Mersey amidst vessels crowded with spectators, the royal party drove to the Town Hall, a splendid building in the Corinthian style, for luncheon. Thence they proceeded to the Free Public Library, an early institution of its class, and finally to the noble St. George's Hall, still one of the grandest structures of the kind in the British Isles. Fortunate in its position at the very centre of the town, on a site open enough to display its proportions to the best advantage, this edifice is surpassed by few modern structures in dimensions. In the centre is the great hall, 169 ft. long, and, with the galleries, 87 ft. wide and 74 ft. in height, roofed in by a vault of solid masonry. The chief adornments are columns of polished granite, marble balustrades and pavements, and doors of polished brass with rich foliated tracery. The Law Courts open out at each end, with a corridor running round the exterior of the whole. The eastern front has a portico of sixteen Corinthian columns about 60 ft. in height, and on the southern side is an advanced portico of similar columns crowned with a pediment filled with sculpture, and bearing a suitable Latin inscription. The great hall contains an organ, designed in its musical details by Dr. Samuel Wesley, and built by Messrs. Willis, of London, equal to any for combined size, power, and beauty of tone. The royal visitors heard a brief recital on this superb instrument by the municipal organist, Mr. W. T. Best, an artist of consummate skill, whose performances had become famous throughout the country.

Towards the end of the same month the Prince and Princess stayed for a few days with Lord and Lady Alfred Paget, then living at Melford Hall, Sudbury, in Suffolk, as tenants of Captain Sir William Parker. The house is a fine Elizabethan structure with a quadrangle and two octagonal towers, surmounted by

turrets in front, and four similar towers on the western side. A spacious well-wooded park, with undulating slopes, surrounds the mansion. On the night of their arrival there was a vast bonfire and a great display of fireworks on the green near the hall. Two days' shooting followed, in which the Prince had his usual success. Early in December, when the royal pair had just enjoyed the festivities of a visit at Lord Suffield's residence, Gunton Hall, in the extreme north-east of Norfolk, on the main road from Norwich to Cromer, there arrived the news of the death, on December 9, of Leopold, King of the Belgians, uncle of Queen Victoria. The venerable monarch, the "Nestor" of European sovereigns, had nearly completed his seventy-sixth year when he expired at his palace of Laeken, near Brussels. It was another severe blow to the Queen, and an event greatly regretted by the Prince, who at once postponed an intended visit to Lord Sondes, at Elmham Hall, on his return route to Sandringham. He went straight home and thence to Marlborough House, and accompanied his brother, Prince Arthur, to Brussels, to attend the funeral of his distinguished relative. Thus practically ended, for the Prince of Wales, the events of the busy year with which we have been dealing. We started by describing this period as one that was typical. It does, in fact, represent, in the main, his course of life during the thirty-five years which still lay between him and the throne.

In the earliest days of 1866 the Prince and Princess were at Sandringham. During the Christmas holidays both hunted the fox with the West Norfolk Hounds, and the Prince had much sport in shooting wildfowl on the lake and in the salt marshes at Holkham, and joined the Duke of Cambridge on General Hall's estate, Six-Mile Bottom, near Newmarket, for the less exciting pleasure of pheasant battues. Later on, both royal personages were at Trentham Park, in Staffordshire, with the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. The noble mansion, near the village of the same name, derived from proximity to the river Trent, lies halfway between Stone and Newcastle-under-Lyme. The river flows through a park of 500 acres, bordered by oak

woods and having a varied surface of hill and dale, and a fine herd of deer. The water expands into a lake in front of the house, built originally on the model of Buckingham Palace, but much improved and enlarged by Sir Charles Barry. The additions were a semicircular colonnade and a carriage porch, surmounted by the arms of the Duke, with a Belvedere tower 100 ft. high, giving a stately aspect to the whole structure. The gardens and pleasure grounds are very extensive and tasteful. In the burial ground of the church, near the hall, is a massive Egyptian structure, the family mausoleum, surrounded by yew trees and other congenial growth. The sport of fox-hunting during this visit was varied by an inspection of the London and North-Western Railway works at the newly risen town of Crewe. This remarkable place, like New Swindon, in the north of Wiltshire, was entirely created by the development of railways, causing the need of manufacturing vast rolling-stocks of locomotives, carriages ("coaches" in railway language), and wagons for goods. Crewe, in the south of Cheshire, could show, in 1840, about three houses as her right to possess a name at all, apart from Crewe Hall, the seat of the peer to whom she gave a title. In 1843 the London and North-Western Railway directors chose the spot for erecting railway works. In 1851 the population had risen to 4500; in 1877 the town became a municipal borough; in the first year of the twentieth century the four thousandth locomotive was turned out, and Crewe contained well over 40,000 people. That which the Prince saw at the steel works of this rapidly rising and prosperous town testified to the vast improvement and progress made in the manufacture. This result was mainly due to the ingenious invention—one of the grandest and most successful ever made in metallurgy—of Sir Henry Bessemer, a mainly self-taught native of Hertfordshire. His patent was taken out in 1856, and in the course of a few years the British annual production of steel was raised from 50,000 tons to thirty times as much, while the price fell from £50 per ton to one-fifth of that amount for the metal of endless use in making rails, wheel tires, rollers, boiler plates,



and plates for shipbuilding. The royal visitor witnessed with great interest the whole famous "Bessemer process". This begins with melting pig-iron in an air furnace, then running the molten metal into a vast egg-shaped receptacle—the Bessemer "converter"—where it is blown into for about twenty minutes by a pressure of air of nearly 25 lb. to the square inch from the blowing engine. He then saw the vessel turned down, and a quantity of molten pig-iron, containing much manganese, added to it by means of a funnel. By this process the carbon, driven out by the blowing, was restored to the metal, and the united substances, now forming "Bessemer steel", were run into a ladle, and thence poured into ingot moulds. After viewing various kinds of ingenious and powerful machines and tools at work, the Prince witnessed the performance of the sawing-machine, which in two minutes, with a terrific noise, divided an ingot of steel 18 in. thick.

On February 6 the heir apparent attended his mother at the House of Lords, where the Queen appeared for the first time since the death of the Prince Consort. A great assembly was there to welcome her, but there was no flourish of trumpets on her entrance, and the robes of state were not worn by the sovereign but only laid upon the throne. The Queen appeared in a dress of dark-purple velvet bordered with ermine, and wore a tiara of diamonds, from behind which depended a white gauze veil. When she was seated, the Prince took his place in a chair of state to the right, and the Princess stood on the left. The Queen seemed full of sad reflections, and on the conclusion of the ceremony she stepped slowly from the throne, still looking very grave and mournful, and turned to kiss the Prince, who escorted her to the retiring-room. A few days later the Prince and Princess were with the Duke of Rutland at Belvoir Castle, near Grantham. The original of this stately edifice, which in its position, commanding an extensive and beautiful view over a well-wooded landscape, reminds the spectator of Windsor, was a feudal fortress erected by a Norman noble, chief standard-bearer to William the Conqueror. In the fifteenth century the property

passed by marriage to Robert de Manners, ancestor of the Dukes of Rutland, the duchy being a creation of Queen Anne. There was fox-hunting with the host, a famous man "across country", who had succeeded to the title in 1857, and possessed an excellent pack of hounds. During the London season the royal pair were mostly in town, with occasional runs out to Sandringham, to Ascot races, and to Brighton for a volunteer review. During their residence at Marlborough House there was the usual series of levees, "courts", and dinner parties, a state ball at Buckingham Palace and an event of interest, attended by the Prince and Princess, in the marriage, at Kew Church, of the portly, gracious, and very popular cousin of the Prince, Mary of Cambridge, to the Duke of Teck. On a very early day in July an incident, which might have had serious consequences, befel the Prince as he and his wife, with the Queen of the Belgians, were riding in Rotten Row. An equestrian there lost command of his horse, and the animal dashed at full speed in the path of the Prince, knocking his horse down and making him roll over and over. The royal rider took the matter very coolly, and after resting for a short time on one of the seats to recover from the shaking, and to receive his hat and whip, he remounted and rode home. It was about this time that he visited the mercantile marine training ship *Worcester*, moored off Erith, and distributed prizes to the boys.

We must now note some of the more important occasions on which the Prince played a chief part in public functions. At the Royal Academy banquet of the year, early in May, the chair was filled by a newly-chosen president, Sir Francis Grant. That gentleman, a brother of General Sir James Hope Grant, a distinguished veteran of two Chinese wars, the two Sikh wars, and the Indian Mutiny or Sepoy War, was, if not a great artist, a well-skilled portrait painter of ladies and gentlemen in fashionable life, and an excellent head of the academy in social gifts, tact, and kindly regard for his brother artists. In early life he had spent a small patrimony in field sports, and when he took up painting he began with groups of huntsmen, horses, and hounds, such as the meet of the Royal Staghounds and the Melton Hunt. In

proposing the health of the royal guest, Sir Francis claimed as "an artist", in the language of fox-hunters, any gentleman distinguished across country after hounds, and complimented the Prince as being, in that sense, a first-rate artist. He begged to request, for that reason, his sympathy with his "brothers of the brush", an important element both in painting and in the chase of the fox. In his reply, the Prince, with suitable humour, acknowledged the brotherhood indicated by the president, and said: "Although, as I have already observed, I will do my utmost to support art, still I am afraid I shall never be able to compete with you as a painter, but at the same time I shall always be ready to enter the lists with you in the hunting field as long as you do not attempt to ride over me at the first fence". There may possibly be here an allusion to Sir Francis Grant's recent presence in the hunting field in the vale of Belvoir, when, in one of two very severe runs, the Prince was most deservedly presented with the brush. A few days later he was the chief of many distinguished guests at Willis's Rooms, when a dinner was given by the President and Council of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Among the eminent professionals present on this occasion, in what has been sometimes called "the age of the engineers", were Rennie and Armstrong, Scott Russell and Fairbairn, Penn and Maudsley, Hawkshaw and Cubitt, Brassey and Bessemer. The Prince, in his reply to the usual toast, alluded to Brunel and Stephenson as men "whose names will never be obliterated from our memory", and referred to recent achievements of great importance, such as the Thames Embankment, the Underground Railway, and the Victoria Bridge at Montreal, the inauguration of which (as readers will remember) he had himself performed.

The laying of the foundation stone of the new stately structure of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, was a very interesting function. On the platform there the Prince was met, among many other distinguished personages by the philanthropist Lord Shaftesbury. The institution had its origin, in principle, in 1780, in an association formed for



distributing copies of the Scriptures among soldiers and sailors. That body, confining itself to its first object, still exists as the Naval and Military Bible Society. In 1802 a clergyman from Wales, needing Welsh Bibles for his people, came to London and sought the aid of the Religious Tract Society, founded three years previously. The aid of Churchmen and Nonconformists was enlisted in the cause, and the great association for the spread of the Scriptures of Christianity, or portions thereof, throughout the world was the result, accomplished in March, 1804. In the first year of its existence the Society expended the modest sum of £600. Before the end of the nineteenth century the yearly income from legacies, donations, and subscriptions, and from the sale, at a very cheap rate, of Bibles, New Testaments, and smaller portions of the Scriptures, had reached over a quarter of a million sterling, and over 340 versions of the whole or parts of the Bible were being sent about the world in 298 different languages and dialects, more than 30 versions being in tongues that possessed no previous literature, but were for the first time, with the aid of missionaries working among divers races of heathenism, reduced to a written form. The number of languages and dialects in which the Bible is now printed by the Society exceeds 400. This great Society, having more than 6000 branches and auxiliary associations in Great Britain and the Colonies and dependencies, had distributed over 150 millions of copies of the whole or parts of the sacred books of Christianity. When the Prince had laid the stone with the usual ceremonies, he made a speech in which he first referred to the part taken by Mr. Wilberforce, "the father of the eminent prelate who now occupies so prominent a place in the Church of England", in founding the Bible Society. The succeeding remarks were of great interest. "I have an hereditary claim", he said, "to be here upon this occasion. My grandfather, the Duke of Kent, as I have just been reminded, warmly advocated the claims of this Society; and it is gratifying to me to reflect that the two modern versions of the Scriptures most widely circulated—the German and the English—were both, in

their origin, connected with my family. The translation of Martin Luther was executed under the protection of the Elector of Saxony, the collateral ancestor of my lamented father; whilst that of William Tyndale, the foundation of the present authorized English version, was introduced with the sanction of the Royal predecessor of my mother the Queen, who first desired that the Bible should have free course through all Christendom, but especially in 'his own realm.'" We may observe that, in order to mark their interest in the proceedings of the day, the Queen and the Prince of Wales each contributed £100 to the Building Fund. A few days later, on June 13, the Prince was present at the sixteenth anniversary festival of the Friends of the Clergy Corporation, designed to assist the orphans and unmarried daughters of clergymen of the Church of England, and to afford temporary aid to their necessitous parents. He warmly advocated the claims of the charity, and gave 100 guineas to the funds. Only five days elapsed, and the indefatigable son of his father was presiding at the formal opening or inauguration of the excellent institution styled the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools, near Croydon, for the children of those persons and of agents of wholesale houses and manufactories so employed in the United Kingdom. About three years previously he had laid the foundation stone of the building. After a suitable speech, the Prince received purses from upwards of one thousand ladies, the hugeness of the heap of offerings, the value of which exceeded £5000 in money, with subscriptions, causing amusement and pleasure. The building then opened is one of the most commodious and beautiful structures possessed by any charity, and its imposing appearance, on a picturesque site near Caterham Junction, has been many a time admired by travellers to Brighton. Ten days more passed, and after a run out to Trentham, to lay the first stone of a new infirmary for North Staffordshire, the subject of this record of work done for the people is found, now accompanied by the Princess, at the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum, near Snaresbrook, in Essex, in a healthy and beautiful district. The royal pair were present for the laying of the foundation stone of a new dining hall.

In one of several speeches the Prince alluded to the fact that his father had inaugurated the building on the same day in a previous year. The presiding personage was Lord Alfred Paget, who, having "known his Royal Highness", as he said, "almost before he (the Prince) knew himself", bore strong testimony to the interest he took, not only in every manly English sport, but in everything which contributed to the advancement of such institutions as that whose success his presence on that occasion proved his desire to promote. The Prince said that he felt almost inclined to blush at the terms in which the chairman alluded to his friendship for himself, and "I can never forget the kindness which he has shown towards me since my earliest boyhood".

It was in the summer of 1866 that the Austro-Prussian war arose. This was a series of events of special interest to the Prince from his marriage connection with the Crown Prince of Prussia, who held a chief command, and with Prince Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt. The latter personage, as his uncle the Grand-Duke took part with Austria in the brief and decisive struggle, was arrayed against the husband of the Princess Royal of Britain, so that the Prince of Wales had his two elder sisters on opposite sides of the contest. It was naturally a time of trouble and anxiety for the members of the royal house in England. Apart from family feeling, the Prince, like the Queen, was a keenly intelligent observer of foreign affairs, and when the war broke out he promptly had special wires laid on to Marlborough House and Sandringham in order to receive the earliest possible information of events. During subsequent European hostilities, especially in the Franco-German, Russo-Turkish, and Greco-Turkish wars, he was supplied with news in the same fashion. The author of a life of Edward the Seventh as Prince of Wales, published in 1898, remarked with very creditable insight, in reference to these matters, that the Prince "when he is called upon to reign will probably be the best unofficial Foreign Minister in the country". The world knows how this forecast was fulfilled.

In regard to warlike matters, foreign or domestic, the heir to the British throne could be, at most, an intelligent observer of



events; but nothing stayed his almost portentous activity in all that concerned the part which he had assumed in home affairs of social and, at times, of national importance. On July 2 we find him present at a festival meeting or banquet of the Corporation of the Trinity House, held at the building on Tower Hill, so called, the headquarters of the body. The original charter of this association, granted by Henry the Eighth in 1514, described the members as "The Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Guild, Fraternity, or Brotherhood of the most glorious and undividable Trinity and of St. Clement, in the parish of Deptford Stroud, in the county of Kent". Deptford had been made by the King a "royal dockyard", and the corporation having already certain duties connected with pilotage, and Deptford being the station where outgoing ships were supplied with pilots, the new body rapidly developed its influence and usefulness. Queen Elizabeth, a sovereign fully alive to the importance of commerce and navigation in the new era, conferred a grant of arms in 1573, and authority to erect beacons and other guiding marks along the coasts of England. In 1604 a select class of the members was established as "elder brethren", the others being "younger brethren". The charter of 1609 gave to the elder brethren the sole management of affairs, the younger brethren having, however, a vote in the election of master and wardens. After 1680 the corporation began to own lighthouses, and by degrees purchased most of the ancient privately-owned lighthouses, and also erected many new ones. The practical duties of the body are discharged by the acting elder brethren, who have all had experience of maritime affairs, but as a mark of honour persons of rank and eminence are admitted as elder brethren, and now form a large proportion of the members. In 1853 the corporation was put under the partial control of the Board of Trade, but it has still the sole charge of the erection and maintenance of lighthouses and buoys in England and Wales, and the examination of pilots and navigating lieutenants; and two of its elder brethren act as nautical advisers in the High Court of Admiralty. The Mastership of the Company has been in later days an honourable post held by

statesman and princes, including Lord Liverpool, the Marquis Camden, the Duke of Clarence (afterwards William the Fourth), the Duke of Wellington, the Prince Consort, and Lord Palmerston. On the death of this last, the Duke of Edinburgh was elected after the post had been declined by the Prince of Wales "with graceful delicacy and characteristic manliness" (in the words of Sir Frederick Arrow, the Deputy Master) in behalf of his sailor brother. At this first banquet after the election of the Duke of Edinburgh, the distinguished guests included the King of the Belgians, the Premier (Earl Russell), and the Lord Chief Justice (Sir Alexander Cockburn). The Prince of Wales, in reply to the toast of his health, expressed his special gratification in being present at the invitation of his own brother, and in supporting him on the first occasion of his taking the chair as Master. He also declared his great pleasure in the presence of the King of the Belgians, sovereign of "a country distinguished in its own position among the nations of the Continent, and one for which his ever-lamented father did so much". Before leaving this subject, we observe that at the banquet of 1868 the Prince of Wales was formally installed as one of the "Younger Brethren", the oath having been administered by his brother as Master. He expressed on this occasion his pleasure in being present at the first dinner at which the Duke had presided since his return from Australia, a duty for which he had left his ship the *Galatea* anchored off Osborne. The Duke of Richmond, as President of the Board of Trade, acknowledged the great services to the Mercantile Marine rendered by the Trinity House. Again, in 1869, the Prince was not only present at the dinner, but president in the absence of his brother. Among the honorary "Elder Brethren" present on this occasion were Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone, respectively ex-Premier and Prime Minister, two great champions of rival parties meeting now on neutral ground. Sir Frederick Arrow referred to the sympathy of the Prince with naval service in all departments, and especially his love of yachting. He had now become an "Elder Brother", and, in reply to the toast of "The Master of the Corporation", he referred to the

protection afforded by the body to British ships and sailors. Mr. John Bright, then President of the Board of Trade, made an eloquent speech discoursing on the benefits to this nation, and to all nations, of the works of the Trinity House Corporation, and referred to the fact that "at this time the merchant ships of England are equal, or nearly equal, in numbers and tonnage, to the seagoing merchant ships of all other countries in the world". It is a striking fact that this statement is still true.

Reverting to the year 1866, we must render honour to the Prince's excellent wife for her personal work in the cause of charity. On July 7 the Princess laid the foundation stone of new buildings for the Home for Little Boys, near Farningham, in Kent, an institution established in April, 1864, "to feed, clothe, educate, and train to industrial work homeless and destitute little boys, and those in danger of falling into crime, whether orphans or not, who are disqualified by poverty and other circumstances for admission to existing asylums and institutions". The Princess, in her husband's presence, laid the stone, made a neat little speech, and received purses in aid of the funds, while the band played the Danish Hymn. Two days prior to this the royal pair had been concerned in an event of much domestic interest—the marriage of Princess Helena, the Queen's third daughter, to Prince Frederick Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. The wedding was celebrated with quiet splendour in the private chapel at Windsor two days after the great Prussian victory at Königgrätz (otherwise called, from another village on the field, the battle of Sadowa) had virtually ended the short, sharp contest between the two chief German powers. A few days later, the Princess Alice (Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt), who had been working hard in supervising the hospitals at Darmstadt for the reception of the sick and wounded, became mother of a third daughter, afterwards named Irene, in commemoration of the restoration of peace between the mighty combatants by the Treaty of Prague. It will be admitted that the Prince of Wales had well earned some repose from charitable works, and it is pleasant to find him at Sandringham personally engaged in a cricket match, played in a



loftily-placed ground on his estate, between twelve of the famous *I Zingari* club and twelve gentlemen of Norfolk. The play was watched by the Princess and other ladies. The Prince (as a former member of the club) took part with the Zingari, fielding at "short leg". Later on he was at Wimbledon Rifle Meeting, where the Princess handed the prizes to the winners; then they both went to Osborne for a visit, and were at the Duke of Richmond's beautiful domain for Goodwood Races.

August saw the Prince at Bishopthorpe, near York, visiting Dr. Thomson, the Archbishop; and at York city, unveiling the Prince Consort Memorial window in the Guildhall. He and the Princess attended a Yorkshire Fine Art and Industrial Exhibition, reviewed 20,000 volunteers on Knavesmire, and then went again to see the Marquis of Ripon at Studley Park, during which sojourn the Prince had some sport with grouse, joining General Hall's party on the northern Yorkshire moors. The time was come for flitting to Scotland, and the Prince and Princess went off to Abergeldie Castle for some weeks, during which there came the usual sport with grouse and deer, the Braemar gathering for Highland games, and a run of the Prince to Aberdeen to unveil a statue of the Queen. The last week of September found the royal pair still farther north in the beautiful land of lochs and mountains, heather, woods, and waterfalls. The railway northwards from Inverness was at that time completed only to Ardgay, near the western extremity of Dornoch Firth, so that a long drive to Dunrobin Castle was necessary. The Duke of Sutherland was constructing, at his own expense, an extension of the line to Golspie, 25 miles farther north, at which place is now the station for the Castle. The Prince and Princess met with a great welcome at various points on the road, and the night of their arrival was made brilliant by bonfires on the hills and by other illuminations. The original castle, overlooking Moray and Dornoch Firths, was founded by Robert, Thane of Sutherland, in 1097, and was from him called "Dunrobin". The present structure, one of the most stately and commodious in Scotland, shows a mass of masonry about 100 ft. square by

80 ft. in height, and combines the architectural style of a French château with the grandeur of a palace. An extensive and imposing frontage to the sea rises from the terraced basement in three main stories, pierced alternately with rows of oriel and plain windows, and is surmounted by many turrets, minarets, and pinnacles, besides lofty towers, with high-pointed roofs, at the angles of the huge square mass of the more ancient structure which is incorporated with the modern edifice. The main tower at the north-east corner rises 150 ft. above the terrace, and beneath this is the carriage entrance. The material is hard white freestone, quarried on the estate. The entrance hall and grand staircase are lined with polished Caen stone. The interior, arranged in numerous suites of rooms, is splendidly decorated. The state apartments command a glorious seaview, and are adorned in the most sumptuous style with panelled ceilings, beautifully carved cornices, and wallhangings of rich-flowered silk. The different suites of rooms have special names, as "Argyle", "Blantyre", "Cromartie", from noble Scottish families connected in blood or by marriage with the Dukes of Sutherland, each set of apartments having its own peculiar scheme of decoration and furniture. During the stay at this magnificent abode, the Prince unveiled a statue of the late Duke, and killed a fine stag at a deer drive. The Princess, with the Duchess, watched the practice of the Sutherland Volunteers at the rifle ranges. Other amusements included trout fishing and a volunteer review.

On the return southwards, the Prince christened by the name of "Princess", at Inverness, a new engine of the Highland Railway Company. At Sandringham the visitors included the Queen of Denmark, Princess Thyra, and Prince Waldemar. The Prince and male guests had shooting at Holkham, and sport with partridges on the home estates.

The lord of Sandringham was now becoming a thorough "county man" in his chosen East Anglian abode, and, in the last week of October, he gladly accepted an invitation of the Mayor and Corporation to Norwich. He and the Princess, with the Queen of Denmark and the Duke of Edinburgh, attended

the musical festival, at which Sir Michael Costa's oratorio *Naaman* was performed for the first time. The concerts given on this occasion at the capital of the eastern counties were remarkable for the rich and varied character of the programmes in classical and other music, and for the rare excellence of the performances by some of the greatest vocal and instrumental artists of the time. The Prince again showed his interest in the citizen force of riflemen by opening a new drill shed for the Norwich volunteers. During the festival at the city the royal personages were guests of Lord and Lady Stafford. That peer was descended from Sir Henry Jerningham, who was the first among the Suffolk and Norfolk knights that declared openly for Mary Tudor as Queen on the decease of Edward the Sixth, and was by her at once promoted to high office in the royal household, appointed to the privy council, and further rewarded with large manors, including the property of Costessey, which he made the chief residence of the family, having rebuilt the mansion. The peerage came by his descent, in the female line, from Viscount Stafford, the Catholic noble cruelly and unjustly executed under Charles the Second in connection with Titus Oates' sham "Catholic plot". The mansion (pronounced "Cossey") lies a few miles north-west of Norwich, and is one of the most interesting of England's rural palaces. The original structure is composed of a central hall and porch facing the east, with wings flanked by plain-angle turrets and surmounted by stepped gables. At the beginning of the nineteenth century a chapel was erected at the south-west angle of the edifice. It is 90 ft. in length, with windows containing grand painted glass of the fifteenth century; the carved-oak stalls are of the same period. The new mansion, attached to the old hall and chapel, has its chief rooms facing the south and west, reaching northwards to the bank of the river Wensum, the measure in that direction being 330 ft. The architect consulted, for details, all the most worthy examples in the county, as well as the magnificent remains of Thornbury Castle, in Gloucestershire, built by Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, a victim on the scaffold, in



1527, of Tudor and Wolseyan jealousy. The Thornbury tower, 130 ft. high, with a machicolated parapet, is a chief feature of the exterior, and the general effect is heightened by pinnacles and clustered chimneys. The walls and window openings are of brick and stone, the bricks, in order to supply the various enrichments of design, having been cast in 1000 special moulds. The brick window in the south front is probably the largest and the most complicated in pattern ever formed in that material. The stone sculptures chiefly display shields of arms and family badges. The dining-hall of the old house leads to the library and drawing-room of the modern structure, flanked by the picture gallery, 108 ft. in length. The tower is at the western end of this gallery, and at the side, a few yards distant, is the dining-room, 50 ft. long by 30 ft. wide and 24 ft. high. Then come the "offices", including a kitchen remarkable for its size, its chimneys, and lofty clock-turret. The conservatory and a terrace carry the buildings to the edge of the river. The interior maintains the character of the architecture in coved ceilings, overspread with intricate patterns of tracery formed of moulded ribs enriched with carved bosses and adorned with gilding and colours. Each chief room has a spacious bay-window in elaborately finished masonry, facing the fireplace. In the picture gallery are two bay-windows, of red and white brick. The ceiling there is panelled in squares, and has ribs rich in mouldings and carved bosses. The doors throughout are most elaborate, the perfection of carved oak work and joinery. The sumptuous modern furniture is mingled with much that is curious and antique in armour and tapestry. The state apartments, on the first floor, are truly magnificent; and the St. Amand Room, adjoining these, displays the famous oak panelling, canopy, and chimney-piece brought from the dismantled Abbey of St. Amand, near Rouen. This apartment was the one assigned to the Princess of Wales as her boudoir. Such was the superb mansion which for a few days received the heir apparent and his wife. We have dwelt at some length upon the subject, because we are convinced that to most of our readers the very name of Costessey Hall has been

hitherto unknown, and in order to show what treasures of beauty are comprised among "the stately homes of England", so many of which, standing "amidst their tall ancestral trees", were seen and admired by the future King and Queen. The Prince of Wales was now to depart for very different and somewhat distant scenes.

In the earliest days of November he was on his way to share in imperial splendours at St. Petersburg, where the Princess Dagmar of Denmark (sister of the Princess of Wales) was to marry the Czarewitch, afterwards Alexander III of Russia. The Prince stayed at Potsdam on the way, visiting the New Palace, a residence of the Crown Prince and Princess, and being received with great heartiness by King William of Prussia at Babelsberg palace, a picturesque building in the English Gothic style, on high ground in the midst of a park also in the English taste. He also visited the Queen-Dowager at Sans Souci, a palace built by Frederick the Great after the Seven Years' War. We learn from the *Diplomatic Reminiscences* of Lord Augustus Loftus that the Prussian monarch, at a family dinner given by the Queen-Dowager, showed most affectionate interest in the British Prince. On arriving at the Russian capital, he was lodged in the New Hermitage Palace, so called because the masculine and voluptuous Czarina Catherine II was wont sometimes to retire thither from the duties of State and the coarser pleasures of life, to seek purer enjoyment among men of science, literature, and art. This palace is now the chief museum of St. Petersburg, full of antiquities, pictures, and sculptures. The grand collection includes the Walpole gallery of paintings, and that of Josephine, Napoleon's empress, and the antiquities from the Kertch Museum in the Crimea. This collection comprises many relics of the ancient Scythians, gathered on Russian territory extending from the Crimea to Siberia. Many of these remains date from the fourth century B.C., and are covered with ornament and sculpture of a high style of Greek art. The type of the Scythians, their costumes, and implements of war, are clearly seen in this wonderful and unique display, then almost unknown in Europe. The

Prince's rooms at the Hermitage Palace, all newly adorned and furnished for his reception, fronted the Neva and communicated with the Winter Palace. In the Chapel Royal of this last imperial abode, the marriage service, a most gorgeous ceremony, was performed on November 9, the Prince's birthday. At the grand ball, afterwards given in St. George's Hall of the same palace, the Prince had as a fellow guest the famous Schamyl, one of the greatest warriors and patriots of modern times, who had for thirty-five years, from 1824 until his capture by overwhelming forces in 1859, resisted the military power of Russia in the Caucasus. Hundreds of thousands of troops were, from first to last, employed against the mountaineers, led by this hero with marvellous skill and success. He had won the admiration and esteem of his opponents by his courage and determination, and by his humane conduct towards helpless foes, and his treatment as a prisoner in Russian hands was equally honourable to the victors and to the vanquished. An annual pension of ten thousand roubles, or about a thousand pounds sterling, was assigned to him, with a residence in the town of Kaluga, south-west of Moscow. There he lived in peace with his wives and the households of his two sons. The dignity of Schamyl's admirable character was finely shown when official greatness and warlike power had passed away. Faithful to his old simple and temperate habits, he displayed also inexhaustible charity and the noble resignation of a real believer. Terrible in war to his foes, and, in his days of rule, to all rebellious subjects, he was benignity itself as an honoured prisoner of war. His health remained robust after nineteen wounds inflicted by cold steel, leaving the scars which are a warrior's noblest decorations. His demeanour was imposing, calm, and austere in his day of adversity as in the height of success, being that of a typical Mohammedan of the spiritual class. In this year, 1866, Schamyl had taken the oath of allegiance to the Czar, and now received the treatment of an esteemed subject of his conqueror. We can well understand the interest with which the eldest son of Queen Victoria, ruler of a great nation ever in sympathy with the real patriots of whom Garibaldi,



Abd-el-Kader, and Schamyl are notable modern representatives, gazed upon such a man. He came attended by a son and a young boy, and presented a striking figure among the gay crowd, as he held his beads in his fingers and passed them along, indicating that prayer was on his tongue. Some of the officers at times spoke to him, and, when the Emperor passed, the chief smiled and made an Oriental salutation. Schamyl was wearing the sheepskin hat of his native land, with the upper part wreathed in white cloth, showing that he had been to Mecca, and was entitled to be called a *hadji*.

During this Russian visit, the Prince saw some interesting places at Moscow. Ever regardful of the helpless and suffering, he went to the famous Foundling Hospital, an institution that is really an orphan asylum, where children, mainly those of officers, are received, nursed, and educated up to eighteen years of age. The building is one of vast extent, covering an area equal to that of the renowned Kremlin. The stranger is amazed by the sight of the corridors, extending almost beyond the reach of his vision. When the Prince arrived, he was taken to a room where the nurses stood at the ends of the little bedsteads or cots, holding their infant charges, some old enough to look about a little and "take notice", as the phrase runs, others suckling, others only a day or two old. The nurses all wore a high coronet-shaped cap of velvet and gold lace, and a clean white apron with plaited fringe. After passing through many similar apartments, with an unlimited repetition of nurses and babes, the royal visitor was conducted to the school-rooms, of which there seemed to be no end, for pupils at various ages and stages of culture. The girls were being taught foreign languages, music, and painting; some played on the piano to the Prince, and others joined in choruses of national airs. Some of the pupils were able to converse with him in perfect English. At the ancient capital of the country, the Prince occupied splendid rooms in the part of the Kremlin called the "Great Palace", itself but a small portion of that vast assemblage of arsenals and fortresses, palaces and churches. He had an interview with the Metropolitan Archbishop of Moscow, the highest dignitary of the

Russian Church. His name was Philarete; he was eighty-four years old, a little man, with a clear bright expression of face, kindly and cheerful in manner. He received his royal visitor in a plainly furnished room, being attended by two monks, and, a monk himself, he wore a hat covered with white cloth hanging down behind, and adorned in front with a diamond cross. He also wore the blue ribbon of the Order of Saint Andrew, the highest in Russia. After a quarter of an hour's conversation, the Prince, who was accompanied by the Crown Prince of Denmark, retired with the blessing of the venerable ecclesiastic. Among other sights, during his excursion to Russia, he saw a parade of the Czar's Circassian bodyguard in the Riding School, said to be the largest covered space in Europe. The Czar was in the Circassian costume; the Prince attended on horseback. After the different squadrons had ridden past, the Circassians gave their peculiar native performances in attacking foes by riding close past them, flinging their bodies into various positions over on their horses' flanks so as to make the animal's body a rampart against hostile bullets, and, in this position, loading and firing their rifles. One man came past standing on his saddle, with his sword between his teeth, and fired as he passed the Emperor; another rode along standing on his head, and in that attitude managed to fire.

At Moscow, the Prince also attended a grand banquet given by Prince Dolgorouki, the Governor, followed by a concert and dance by a dozen or more Russian gipsies, mostly women. The faces were of the usual type of the race, but the costume was novel for people of Western Europe, accustomed to the dress seen outside tattered tents on a common or by a roadway. These dark-skinned beauties at the Moscow palace looked perfectly fit for the drawing-room in which they performed—ladies in demeanour and behaviour, as natural to Orientals, always easy and composed, and fashionably dressed from top to toe. Their only language was Russian, and so their conversation with foreign guests was limited. As an observer who was present wrote: "Flirtation was difficult, but love generally finds a way. The Russian officers interpreted,

and in this manner an ardent son of the Green Isle managed to get his admiration conveyed to a dark-eyed beauty. Another gentleman of the Prince's retinue got some compliments translated to one girl named 'Liza', and she acknowledged their influence by taking the pink scarf from her shoulders, and presenting it, folded up, to her admirer. The scarf is now on its way to England as an evidence that British conquest was carried as far as Moscow." The gipsy-singing, when all sang together, was a wild scream, a tempest of howls, suggestive of murder being perpetrated. The solo-singing was very beautiful, very passionate, the whole face indicating that the words were heartily felt. The dancing strongly reminded one of the Indian *nautch*, the feet having little to do, while the arms, hands, and even the fingers, performed all that belongs to the poetry of motion.

On December 1, the Prince arrived at Berlin on his return journey, after experience of an awkward incident near Königsberg, when the royal saloon caught fire from overheating. Fortunately a station was close at hand, and water for extinction was procured, but the royal traveller had to change carriages. He had greatly enjoyed his trip, and referred to the kind attentions which he had received from the Czar, Czarina, and imperial family. At the Prussian capital, Lord Augustus Loftus was received, in order to present his congratulations on the anniversary of the Princess of Wales's birthday. We have his very competent testimony at this time to the fact that the British heir apparent, "by his amiability, tact, dignified bearing, and ingratiating manners", had "acquired a rare popularity in every country and at every Court which he has visited". On December 7 the Prince was at Dover, showing some effects of his long journey and of a very stormy crossing from Calais. On reaching Sandringham, he was too indisposed to join a shooting party at Oakley Park, the seat of Sir E. C. Kerrison, M.P., or to dance at the ball, but he soon recovered his usual health. Christmas was spent at the Norfolk seat, where the annual gifts of the season were bestowed on the various dependents—616 recipients in 169 families. The children of the Princess's schools had gifts of clothing—the boys a tweed jacket and



blue cap, the girls a scarlet cloak and a hat. At 4 p.m. the men and women residing or employed on the estate in five parishes assembled in the park near the stables, and the Prince and the Duke of Edinburgh, attended by the gentlemen of the household, entered the carriage-house, which was dressed with evergreens and had ranges of tables spread with beef. Each man and woman received two pounds, each child one pound, and each widow four pounds. On Christmas Day carols and anthems were sung by the choristers at 1 a.m., and in the afternoon the children, in their new clothes, were at the house to pay their obeisance, march past the Prince and Princess, and receive a Christmas cake.

The opening weeks of the year 1867 found the Prince enjoying the shooting of wild fowl at his neighbour Lord Leicester's Holkham domain, and having other sport with the hounds, and in shooting pheasants at Sandringham and Six-Mile Bottom. He also rode to hounds and used his gun at the Duke of Sutherland's seats, Trentham in Staffordshire and Lilleshall in Shropshire. On February 20 the family was increased by the birth, at Marlborough House, of a first daughter (third child) for the royal pair. It was Princess Louise Victoria Alexandra Dagmar who thus appeared. Now for the first time since her marriage the health of the Princess of Wales was seriously impaired. Both before and for many weeks after the infant's birth the mother suffered from acute rheumatism and inflammation of a knee joint, which caused a lengthy period of lameness. Her father and mother came over from Denmark and remained for some time at the London residence. The Prince was most devoted in his attention to his wife during this period of suffering, and had his correspondence bureau moved into the sickroom. Among his restricted recreations at this time there was hunting with the royal buckhounds near Windsor, and, in company with the King of Denmark and the Duke of Sutherland, an inspection of the chief London Fire Brigade station, where the party saw some new steam fire-engines at work. The purpose and the value of that eminently British undertaking, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, need no explanation. On March 1 the Prince was in



CHRISTMAS DOLES AT SANDRINGHAM

From a Drawing by Charles M. Sheldon





the chair at the annual meeting held in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House. The royal chairman dwelt in suitable terms on the object of the assembly, stating that during the past year nearly one thousand lives had been saved by the boats, and referring to his father's warm interest in the prosperity of the institution. A list of donations amounting to £1200 was announced by the secretary. On the same (St. David's) day the Prince, with peculiar propriety in one bearing his chief title, presided at the hundred and fifty-second anniversary festival of the Welsh charity styled "Society of Ancient Britons". The practical work of this association of loyal Welshmen was that of educating poor children of Welsh parents in London. The Prince mentioned the facts that his ancestor George the Second was, as Prince of Wales, the first patron of the society, and that, in 1818, after the death of the much-lamented Princess Charlotte of Wales, fifty additional children were, through a public subscription, sent to the school in her memory.

At the Royal Academy banquet of the year, he expressed, with some emotion, the thanks of the Princess of Wales for Sir Francis Grant's kindly reference to her tedious illness, and announced her progress towards recovery. He also referred to the death of Mr. Philip, R.A., "to the vivid truthfulness of whose pictures from Spanish life I myself," he said, "from having been in Spain, can amply testify". After a run to Paris with Major Teesdale, staying with Earl Cowley at the British Embassy, and visiting the Paris Exhibition, the Prince was in attendance on the Queen at a function of some importance. She had opened the session of Parliament in person, and given thereby some token of continuing, from time to time, to take part in public ceremonial duties. The occasion was one which could not fail to appeal to her with special force—that of laying the foundation stone of the Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences at South Kensington. It is needless to dwell on the details of the ceremony or the brilliance of the company. The sovereign was attended by the Princesses Louise and Beatrice, her two elder sons, and Prince Leopold. The Prince of Wales, as "President of the Provisional

Committee", read an address, in which he alluded to the intended hall as one commemoration of the Great Exhibition of 1851. The music on this occasion was finely given, as the unrivalled band of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, conducted by the great Neapolitan master, Michael Costa, played the National Anthem, and Madame Sainton-Dolby, the leading British contralto, sang the verses. After a brief speech from the Queen, and the laying of the stone, the orchestra and chorus gave a musical composition from the Prince Consort's pen, styled "*L'Invocazione all' Armonia*". The solo tenor parts were given by Mario, the finest of tenors, in his best style, and the Queen, as she retired, stayed a moment to thank the public favourite.

In the last days of June, when the Princess had nearly recovered from her illness, the Prince visited the Crystal Palace at Sydenham with Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Prince of Teck, and Prince Louis of Hesse. The attraction was a "Grand Festival Concert" in aid of a fund to restore the part of the Palace which had been seriously injured by a fire at the preceding Christmas. The instrumental band was of extraordinary force, including the whole orchestra of the Covent Garden Opera, many of that at Her Majesty's Theatre, the band of the Sacred Harmonic Society, and that of the Crystal Palace Company. This total of between 400 and 500 instrumental performers was raised by choral singers to the number of 2500 musicians, under the control of Signor Costa. The scene in the magnificent central transept of the unrivalled edifice of iron and glass was one that has been rarely equalled. The weather was brilliant, and gave full effect to the gay summer costumes of the ladies in pink and light blue and white and green. The great orchestra showed the vast mass of the united bands and choral singers in front of the superb organ, faced by the royal party in the centre of three boxes placed on the stage of the theatre. A few days later London society rejoiced to see the Princess, still looking delicate, driving in Hyde Park for the first time since her illness.

This same month of July saw the Prince present at the Mansion House when the Lord Mayor entertained the Viceroy

of Egypt, Ismail Pasha, at that time a very notable personage. He was a son of the brilliant commander and ruler Ibrahim Pasha, a man who, by his victories in Syria over Turkish forces, won for the rebellious Mehemet (Mohammed) Ali of Egypt, had shaken the throne of Sultan Mahmûd II. Ismail, in 1863, on the death of Said Pasha, whom we have seen in connection with the Prince of Wales's tour in the East in 1862, became Vali or Viceroy of Egypt. In 1866 his title was changed by an Imperial firman from that of "Vali" to "Khidewi-Misr", popularly styled "Khedive", and, at the same time, he purchased from the Sultan Abdul Aziz the privilege of having the succession to power in Egypt made direct from father to son, instead of its descent to the eldest heir by Turkish law. Under Ismail's rule the Suez Canal was, at the time under our notice, approaching completion, and the progress of Egypt was bringing the country into a prominent position. A very distinguished company was gathered by the Lord Mayor, including many foreign ambassadors, and the most eminent British politicians. The reply of the Viceroy to the toast of his health was delivered in his native tongue, and interpreted in French by Nubar Pasha, his Minister of Foreign Affairs. "If Egypt had rendered services to England," he said, "chiefly in facilitating communication with India, his country was only acknowledging the debt due to this country for the benefits received in promoting the material and moral progress of his people." The Prince, replying for the Royal Family, referred to the kindness and courtesy with which he had been treated by the late Viceroy, and to the rapid progress which he had observed in Egypt. A few days later the Prince was present at a grand naval review by the Queen in honour of her visitor, Sultan Abdul Aziz. The royal party were on board the *Victoria and Albert*, the Khedive being one of the guests, and there was a fine display of the ironclads of the new naval era, including the *Warrior*, *Minotaur*, *Achilles*, *Black Prince*, and *Bellerophon*, along with many wooden ships. Part of the show was an attack by gunboats on the seaward fortifications of Portsmouth, the whole concluding with an illumination of the fleet. The Prince



gave a banquet to the Sultan at Marlborough House, and accompanied him on a State visit to the Italian Opera.

About the middle of August the royal pair, accompanied by their three children, left London for Wiesbaden, chief town of Hesse-Nassau, and one of the most frequented and fashionable watering-places in Germany. The neat well-built town, with broad and regular streets, lies 3 miles from the Rhine, and 5 miles north of Mainz (Mayence), in a small fertile valley on the south-west slopes of Mount Taunus. The hot springs alone have produced and support the many hotels, bathhouses, lodging houses, villas, promenades, and places of amusement for many thousands of annual visitors. The buildings include the handsome Kursaal, near a beautiful shady park; a Protestant church of polished bricks, in the Gothic style, with five tall towers; a Roman Catholic church, a synagogue in the Moorish style, and a Russian chapel. The two latter suggest the presence of some of the wealthiest and most lavish visitors. At the time of the royal visit the population was just over thirty thousand. The springs, very useful for sufferers from rheumatism, gout, chronic dyspepsia, and nervous ailments, were known to the Romans and are mentioned by the elder Pliny, the writer on natural history. The place had been for a century a notorious gambling resort; six years after the visit under notice, public gambling was suppressed by the Prussian Government. The Princess, in the fresh mild air, and by aid of the springs, became fully restored to health. During her stay, she and the Prince received, among other visitors, the Queen of Denmark, the King of the Hellenes (her brother), the Czarewitch, and the King of Prussia. The family returned to Marlborough House in the middle of October, and the Prince, after shooting at Windsor, and hunting with the harriers, went off with his wife and children to Sandringham, where the year ended with the usual festivities, shared by a large number of visitors.

## CHAPTER XII

## IRELAND, SCOTLAND, AND THE CONTINENT

1868

The year 1868 was marked by displays of the Prince's genial and sympathetic feeling towards Ireland and her people. On March 17 he presided over a numerous and brilliant company at Willis's Rooms in London, gathered to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, and to support the Benevolent Society named after the saint. This institution, as the royal chairman reminded his audience, was founded in 1784, for the relief of poor and distressed Irish residing in and about London, and of their children. One of its patrons was the Prince's maternal grandfather, the Duke of Kent, and several other sons of George the Third presided at annual dinners. The schools were, at the time of the festival under notice, educating about 400 boys and girls on a system entirely national and non-sectarian, all doctrinal teaching being excluded, while the children were strongly advised, and afforded the opportunity, to attend the instructions of the ministers of the religion in which their parents wished them to be brought up. The Prince, in his usual tactful way, said "that the boys and girls are in good health and thriving is, I think, pretty evident from the appearance they presented as they passed through the room just now". The scene here alluded to was very charming and very Irish. As the young people entered the room to walk round the tables the band struck up "St. Patrick's Day", and the guests, mostly Irish in nationality, and including the Archbishop of Armagh, the Duke of Abercorn, and the Earls of Longford, Mayo, and Kimberley, displayed great enthusiasm. The children were also stirred by the music and by the sight of the company and the glittering equipments of the feast. Nor were their eyes alone to be feasted, for the sitters at the banquet tables sent them all away loaded with fruit and cakes until nothing was left of the very sumptuous dessert. The lads and lasses went off to the sound of their

own cheering, and Prince, peers, and commoners showed their delight in thus giving a rare treat to the children of poor Irish parents in London. Lord Kimberley, as a former Lord-Lieutenant, bore the strongest testimony to the Prince's deep interest in all that concerned the welfare of Ireland, and his real acquaintance with her affairs, enabling him to form a just and intelligent opinion. The funds of the charity were augmented on this occasion by gifts of 100 guineas each from the Queen and the Prince.

Not a month had elapsed when Lord Kimberley's words were confirmed by the presence on Irish soil of both the Prince and Princess of Wales. They arrived at Kingstown at 9.30 a.m. on April 15, in the *Victoria and Albert*, under the salutes of a division of armour-clads of the Channel Fleet. The Princess was presented, on landing (as the Queen had been in 1849), with a white dove, emblematic of affection. The Prince would have no troops in the Dublin streets, trusting wholly to the people's loyalty, a reliance on Irish generosity and good feeling which was amply justified by the order which they maintained for themselves, and by the enthusiastic loyalty displayed in decorations, cheers, and illuminations. The royal party attended the Punchestown races in open carriages. Among the ceremonials which marked the visit of ten days was the installation of the Prince in St. Patrick's Cathedral as a Knight of the Irish Order, when he was belted with the same sword as that used for George the Fourth. We may mention, in regard to King Edward the Seventh's constant regard for the least prosperous part of the British Isles, that, as Prince of Wales, he was always a liberal aider of funds in relief of Irish distress, and that on one occasion he entertained at Sandringham some hundreds of Irish tenant-farmers. At the banquet in St. Patrick's Hall on the evening of the installation, the new Knight expressed his great pride in wearing "for the first time the star and riband of this illustrious Order", and his gratitude to the Queen for its bestowal. The speaker alluded to the foundation of the Order by George the Third in 1788, and to his



own satisfaction in being installed in the cathedral so splendidly restored by the great munificence of a private gentleman of Ireland. He was here alluding to the work, completed in 1865, of Sir Benjamin Lee Guinness, member of an Irish family distinguished by deeds of noble liberality. Those who were present on this occasion spoke of the deep impression made by the evident sincerity and earnestness of the speaker.

At Trinity College the Prince, the Duke of Cambridge, and Lord Abercorn were invested as honorary Doctors of Laws. The royal pair made visits to beautiful places in County Wicklow, to the Duke of Leinster at Carton, and to Maynooth College, as well as to the Cattle Show in Dublin, a review in Phoenix Park, and many other scenes. The *Times* newspaper well described the fatigue involved in such a sojourn as this was in the sister kingdom. "There were presentations and receptions, and the receiving and answering of addresses; processions—walking, riding, and driving in morning, evening, military, academic, and medieval attire. In more or less publicity the Prince had to breakfast, lunch, and dine or sup every twenty-four hours. He had to go twice to races with fifty or a hundred thousand people about him. Everywhere he was receiving addresses under canopies, and dining in state under the eye of galleries—full of spectators. He visited and inspected institutions, colleges, universities, academies, libraries, and cattle shows. He had to take a very active part in assemblies of from several hundred to several thousand dancers, and always chose his partners fitly among the most important personages. He had to introduce the statue of Burke to the wind and rain of his country. He had to listen to many speeches with sufficient care to know how to suitably reply. He had to examine with respectful interest pictures, books, antiquities, relics, manuscripts, specimens, bones, fossils, prize beasts, and works of Irish art. He had always to be equal to the occasion, however like or unlike the last, and whatever his position of disadvantage as to the novelty or the dullness of the matter and the scene. He was always before persons who were there at home, on their own ground, and amid

people and objects familiar to them, and sometimes, in a manner, made by them. Be it cardinal, chancellor, rector, mayor, commanding officer, president, chairman, or local deputation, he had to hold his own, without even seeming to do so—that is, without effort or self-assertion. All this he had to do continually for ten days. Men of common mould know what an anxious thing it is to have to do this even once, and how utterly they may be upset by the concurrence of two or three such occasions.” For ourselves we say that it is absurd to think of such a ten days’ employment of time as mere pleasure to a royal personage. It is most severe toil for body and mind, a task demanding boundless self-control, and patience, tact, and good humour and a constant display, for due effect, of all the graces and gifts of royalty. Rightly considered, what is here given should stifle envy, make grumblers dumb, and render obscure persons most thankful for their lot.

On the way home the Prince and Princess visited North Wales. At Holyhead they passed along the pier between a double line of aged Welshwomen, wearing the tall hat and national dress. At Carnarvon Castle they received an address from the Council of the National Eisteddfod, and the Prince, in his reply, noted that the day was the anniversary of the birth, in 1284, of the first Prince of Wales. On arriving in London the heir apparent was soon at his usual work, presiding, on May 5, at the dinner on the sixty-second anniversary of the “Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress”, an institution founded for the purpose of helping all deserving aliens in need in this country without distinction of nationality, religion, sex, or age. Both the Queen and the Prince Consort were supporters of the charity, which had aided, up to the time under notice, 116,000 cases. About a week later the Prince, as President of the Governors of St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, in which, as is well known, he showed a specially warm and active interest, took the chair at the annual “View” dinner, when it is usual for some of the governors to make a visitation of the wards and other departments. In his speech the royal chair-



KING EDWARD AS HORSEMAN





man alluded to the lively interest taken by the Queen in the hospitals of the country, adding: "She has to-day evinced that interest by laying the foundation stone of the sister hospital of St. Thomas". He also reminded his hearers that the Princess had taken as great an interest in St. Bartholomew's Hospital as he had done, "and as soon as she could move about after her return from abroad she accompanied me here on a visit". After alluding to the satisfactory condition of six wards of the hospital which he had that day visited, he said: "I once took the officers of the institution by surprise, and I came here in the winter, practically without giving notice. I can assure you I found everything on that occasion in the same condition as to-day — nurses and attendants in their places, and surgeons and physicians punctiliously discharging their duties." He went on to allude to the excellent service rendered by the hospital in the previous winter to the many victims of the event known as "the Clerkenwell explosion". This Fenian outrage was perpetrated on December 13, 1867, in an attempt to procure the escape of "Colonel Burke" and another Irish convict by placing a cask of gunpowder against the wall of Clerkenwell prison and then firing the explosive in order to blow down the wall. It was supposed that the people to be rescued would be at that time walking for exercise in the prison yard. If they had they would almost certainly have been killed by their intending rescuers, but the governor of the prison had warning of the plot and kept all his charges to their cells for the day. The results of the explosion to innocent persons in the crowded neighbourhood were terrible. The shock which, at four o'clock on that winter day, as darkness fell, startled all London and threw down 60 yards of the prison wall, shattered to pieces many of the small adjacent houses. Twelve persons were killed on the spot or mortally injured, and about 120 received wounds. Forty children were prematurely born of women within range of this fearful physical and mental blow, and one-half of these infants did not survive the hour of their birth. The political influence of this event on the minds of British voters was very

serious for the cause of the Irish who aspired to "Home Rule" by very different means than senseless and barbarous outrages. We shall have reason to refer again to this event in intimate connection with the career of the King as Prince of Wales. We conclude this account by noting that when, on February 17, 1868, the Prince and Princess visited St. Bartholomew's, they saw all the Clerkenwell sufferers who were then in the wards and expressed their sympathy with them.

On July 4 the Prince and Princess, along with the Duke of Edinburgh, attended at the Crystal Palace a festival of welcome for the Duke on his safe return from Australia after his escape from assassination, on March 12, at Sydney. The royal sailor, with his ship the *Galatea*, had visited several places in New South Wales, and it was at a public fête in the suburbs of the capital, where funds were being raised for a sailors' home, that he was shot with a revolver, by a man named O'Farrell, probably a Fenian emissary. The ball entered the back and traversed the curved ribs to the front of the body, hurting no vital part, but causing much loss of blood. The miscreant, saved with difficulty from the prompt vengeance of bystanders, was convicted and executed. The Duke, on partial recovery, personally interceded with the Governor, the Earl of Belmore, for the sparing of the man's life, but it was thought that clemency, in a case so atrocious, would have a bad effect. The *Galatea* returned speedily to Britain, as it was thought that her captain's complete recovery was retarded by the climate of the colony. The royal party at Sydenham included the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, and the Duke of Sutherland. They arrived at 4 p.m., and took their places in three boxes in the Central Transept, facing the great Handel Orchestra and organ. A grand concert included opera music magnificently sung by Madame Patti and Signor Mario, followed by the superb chorus, the most thrilling in effect of all oratorio music, from *Judas Maccabæus*, "See the Conquering Hero Comes", "Rule Britannia", the National Anthem, and a new song, "God Bless our Sailor



Prince". After the music, the visitors went out to the canopied balcony overlooking the great terrace, the gardens, and a charming Kentish landscape, and witnessed a display of the great fountains and the whole system of waterworks. There was no wind to spoil the effect of height attained by the fountain waters. After dinner the proceedings of the day ended with a display of the fireworks for which the Crystal Palace became afterwards so renowned, and which often aroused admiration from illustrious foreign visitors. The Princess of Wales had now arrived, and showed herself first in the Royal box to an applauding throng in the Central Transept, and then to the vast multitude outside. The royal personages were saluted by coloured signal-lights held by volunteers along the whole line between the great fountains and the upper terrace. The pyrotechnic show first gave an illuminated model of the Duke of Edinburgh's frigate the *Galatea*, the representation being 80 feet in length and 40 feet high—to the topmast. The ship appeared as in full sail, with portholes open and the Union Jack flying at the forepeak. A splendid effect was produced by the red and blue fires in various parts of the vessel, contrasted with the deep green of the waves on which she appeared to ride, while rockets flew and burst in all directions, giving the effect, in sounds, of a cannonade. Next came the famous fire cascade, falling from a good height over a span 100 feet wide, accompanied by a discharge of Roman candles along the whole length of the grand terrace. The Grenadier Guards' band played during the performance, which included also an illumination of all the fountains, in full play, with coloured fires; the explosion of maroons near the ground and high aloft; the descent of a fiery comet from each of the two lofty water towers; and two set pieces, in the form of circular garlands, one enclosing an anchor with "Welcome, Alfred!" and the other showing the Prince of Wales's feathers with "Welcome!" Only two days later another welcome was accorded by the royal family and the nation, on the birth of Princess Victoria Alexandra Olga Mary, the fourth child and second daughter of the Prince and Princess.

The latter half of August and the month of September were spent at Abergeldie Castle in the usual fashion, with shooting grouse and deer-stalking, and in a visit for a few days to Dunrobin Castle. We have an incident of this period from a letter of the famous Scottish divine, Dr. Norman Macleod, who, as Chaplain to the Queen, and as a private friend of the sovereign, was often in the Highlands. To his wife from "Abergeldie, Sept. 14, 1868", he wrote: "I preached happily. The Prince spoke to me about preaching only twenty minutes. I told him I was a Thomas à Becket, and would resist the interference of the State, and that neither he nor any of the party had anything better to do than hear me. So I preached for forty-seven minutes, and they were kind enough to say they wished it had been longer. The Prince's whole views as to his duty to Scotland and Ireland as well as England were very high. He spoke most kindly and wisely of Ireland, and seems determined to do his duty to her."

On the way back to England, the Prince and Princess were at Glasgow for a very important and interesting purpose—the laying of the foundation stone of the new University buildings. It was not the first stone, which had been laid about eighteen months previously, and good progress had been made with the fine designs of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Gilbert Scott. There were, on October 8, the usual enthusiastic greeting and procession through the streets to the City Hall, with the reception of addresses, and then the party proceeded to the site of the buildings on Gilmorehill, beautifully situated at the Kelvingrove Park, in the west end of the city. The stone was laid with the usual ceremonies, and the Prince, in reply to an address from the Principal and the Senate, expressed the high satisfaction with which he had become a member and graduate of the University, and the thanks of the Princess for the opportunity afforded her of taking part in the day's ceremony. Before dealing with the main subject, the University of Glasgow and the new structures, we may briefly describe the implements used by the Prince (and, on this occasion, by the Princess, in laying

a companion stone) as specimens of those handled by him on the scores of occasions when he performed similar functions. Those employed at Glasgow, and presented to the two royal personages, were really beautiful works of artistic skill, from the architect's own design. The Prince's trowel had a carved ivory handle, enriched with heavy gold cords, and his coronet in gold, enamel, and jewels; in the centre was the Garter in enamel, and the monogram A.E. On the ferrule appeared the plume, coronet, and *Ich Dien*, supported by the Arms of the University, with the Thistle, and the motto *Resurgat in Gloria* in enamel and variegated gold. The blade was of silver, parcel-gilt, with inscription on the front stating the occasion of use. On the reverse was engraved an interior view of the grand hall of the University. The handle of the trowel used by the Princess was of fine ivory enriched with gold; on the top was her coronet, and beneath it a border medallion of turquoise with monogram A, in pink coral on white enamelled ground, thus showing the Danish colours. The ferrule bore her plume, coronet, and motto, the Arms of the University with motto, and the Thistle enamelled in the natural colours of the national plant. The blade bore Queen Anne ornaments, and the reverse a finely engraved view of the exterior of the new buildings. The mallet and plummet were beautiful pieces of work, adorned with the Prince's plume, and the coronets and monograms of the royal pair with suitable inscriptions.

The famous seat of learning with which the heir to the throne thus became associated was founded by Bishop Turnbull, who obtained a "bull" for the purpose, forming a corporate body of chancellor, rector, and dean, with doctors, masters, regents, and students, dated 7th January, 1450, from Pope Nicholas V. This man is justly described by Macaulay, who was installed as Lord Rector on March 21, 1849, as "the greatest of the restorers of learning", and as "one never to be mentioned without reverence by every lover of letters". The masterly and most instructive address delivered by Macaulay on the occasion just mentioned, and published in his *Speeches*, traces briefly the progress, not only of the University, but of the town of Glasgow, through



a period of four centuries. He points to intellectual pursuits as a chief agent in transforming "a poor, small, rude town", lying in "a wild, half-barbarous tract, on the utmost verge of the known world", into the magnificent city, the great capital of Clydesdale, in a region "swarming with population, rich with culture, and resounding with the clang of machinery, a region sending forth fleets laden with its admirable fabrics to the lands of which, in the days of Nicholas V, no geographer had ever heard". The illustrious speaker also referred to the distinguished men who had taught or learned wisdom within the walls of "Glasgow College"—to Simson the geometrician, William Hunter the anatomist, Reid and Dugald Stewart the philosophers, Campbell the poet; to Adam Smith and his pupil Millar, the political economists; to Joseph Black, "whose discoveries form an era in the history of chemical science"; and to James Watt, whose name alone suffices. The great structure with which the Prince and Princess of Wales were concerned became, in completion, the grandest in Glasgow, and unequalled in the world, for architecture, among educational institutions. Nothing can be finer than the site, on the crown of a hill, with its principal and rapid slope towards the south, where the buildings occupy, as far as may be, the whole of the ridge facing in that direction by a continuous front of 540 feet in length. In advance of this splendid façade is a system of terraces, bringing the ground down towards the Kelvin, which has a picturesque course along the base of the eminence. The southern front comprises three lofty portions, a central block and two corner towers, between which are two lower ranges of buildings. The north side is divided, in a similar fashion, into five parts, the angle blocks forming towers, and facing each quadrangle is a structure of great dimensions, one a museum, the other the library. The whole rectangular edifice is thus 540 feet by 300. The library and museum have each two great halls, on the ground and first floors, 129 feet long by 60 feet wide. The architectural style is that of works of the fourteenth century, modified so as to give a character allied to that of old Scottish structures.

Early in November the Prince was shooting pheasants at General Hall's, near Newmarket, and had some sport at Sandringham. A long tour, involving northern and continental Europe, the Nile, and south-eastern Europe, had been planned, and about the middle of the month the Prince and Princess left for Paris, whence they visited the Emperor and Empress of the French at Compiègne. This town, famous as the occasional residence of French kings from a very early date, is quiet, old-fashioned, and picturesque, lying on the River Oise, about 50 miles north-east of the capital. The palace, one of the largest and most splendid edifices of its class in France, was erected mainly under Louis XV and his hapless successor, but has received large additions since their day. It was sumptuously fitted up by Napoleon, who often occupied it. The façade towards the forest is 624 feet long. From the beautiful gardens an arbour walk, nearly a mile in length, conducts the visitor towards the charming forest of over 30,000 acres, with fine oak timber, a favourite hunting ground of French royalty. The Prince, at a stag hunt on this occasion, had an adventure which might have been of serious result. As he galloped along one of the grassy sides, a stag charged his horse from a crosspath and upset animal and rider. Much bruised and shaken, he was not seriously hurt, and remounted to pursue his sport for the rest of the day. Marshal Bazaine and Count von Moltke, men destined to fortunes so strongly contrasted in a great struggle near at hand, were among the guests. A foot of one of the stags killed this day was given to the Prince, and in 1873, when he had been to Chislehurst to see the dead body of the ex-emperor, his old exiled friend, lying in state, he had the little trophy of the chase mounted in the form of an inkstand, as a memorial of the day and of his host at Compiègne. The fetlock contains the inkstand, with the French imperial crown, in solid gold, as cover. The base is composed of fine black marble, supported by stags' heads and antlers in frosted silver. After the visit to France the royal pair went for a month to Copenhagen, where the Princess's birthday (December 1) was spent. During the Denmark visit the Prince spent a few days

at the Swedish Court in Stockholm. The next move was to Berlin, which was reached on January 16, 1869. They were received at the railway station by the Crown Prince and Princess, the personnel of the British Embassy, and chief officials of the Court and army. At the palace of the Crown Prince, the royal pair received visits of the Prussian King and Queen. Two days later the King held a chapter of the Knights of the Black Eagle, the highest Prussian distinction, and one of the "Prime Orders of Christendom", conferred only upon an exclusive class. The Prince of Wales was introduced by his brother-in-law, the Crown Prince. The British Prince had been for some years a Knight of the Order, but now he was formally invested with the collar and the mantle, which, by the rules of the Order, can only be received in Prussia. The King, in a brief speech, referred in the most touching and affectionate terms to the fact that the collar then presented was the one worn by the recipient's father, the Prince Consort. At the banquet which followed this ceremony, the aged Field-Marshal Wrangel and Count Bismarck wore the Order of Dannebrog, by the King's commands, in compliment to the Princess of Wales. The travellers soon left Berlin for Vienna, and, after being entertained by the Emperor and the beautiful Empress, they departed for Trieste, their point of starting for the main tour now to be described.

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## CHAPTER XIII

### EGYPT, CONSTANTINOPLE, AND THE CRIMEA

1869

The Prince, Princess, and their suite of friends and attendants embarked on January 28 at the Adriatic port on H.M.S. *Ariadne*. The vessel was off Alexandria on the evening of February 2, and the landing took place at eight o'clock on the following morning. The vessels in the port afforded a pretty spectacle in their "dressing" of flags, covered as they were with gaily hued pennons and



streamers from the top of each mast to the water's edge, and having the yards "manned" by the crews in erect posture. Hundreds of boats of picturesque and varied shapes, and gaily painted, were crowding around the British man-of-war, and had a weird effect in their burdens of black and bronze-hued, half-wild-looking people dressed in brightest array. Before the landing took place, the two high officials, Mourad Pasha and Abd-el Kader Bey, appointed by the Viceroy to attend the Prince in Egypt, came aboard. The royal party were at once conveyed by special train to Cairo, and, being received by Ismail Pasha with the usual honours, were conducted by him to the Ezbekiyeh Palace, which had been specially prepared for their temporary residence. In the evening the Prince and Princess visited the French theatre. Prior to the expedition up the Nile, some incidents of great interest engaged the royal attention in the capital.

On February 5 the tourists witnessed the remarkable spectacle furnished in the starting for Mecca of the "Procession of the Holy Carpets", or, more properly, "Curtains", escorted by a host of pilgrims to the metropolis of the faith of Islam. Two of these "carpets" are yearly dispatched from Cairo, two from Constantinople, and two are sent by the *Sherif*, a high dignitary who is head of a princely family claiming descent from the Prophet. Of the two sacred coverings sent from Cairo one goes to Medina, as a veil for the tomb of the Prophet, the other to Mecca, to be placed over the *Kaaba* (*Caaba* or *Kaba*), or central point of the Mohammedan religion. This small stone building is situated in the middle of the great Mosque at Mecca, and is the sanctuary towards which all prayer is directed by the votaries of Islam, in every country, as they turn their faces towards the due point of the compass. To this sacred edifice all Moslems who can possibly effect it make pilgrimage at least once in their lives. The blessings promised for this performance are those which, year by year, draw vast numbers of the faithful from Asiatic and from African countries, and from Turkey in Europe. The holy "carpets" are sent from Cairo with the gathering of pilgrims from Africa, and the escort of troops pro-

tecting the sacred coverings serves also to guard the travellers in their passage through the desert. The route taken is, at first, almost the same as that of the children of Israel in the Exodus, nearly as far as Suez, and then eastwards in a line forming the base of the Sinaitic peninsula. From the head of the gulf of Akaba the march is southwards to Mecca and Medina. The district around the two holy cities is called the "Hedja", and the pilgrims are hence styled "Hadjis". Of the six coverings, three are laid, one over the other, on the roof of the Kaaba, and the old ones, weatherworn and faded in the sun, are cut up in pieces for distribution, as relics of the most precious kind, among the pilgrims. The Kaaba "carpet" is made of black cloth with a green fringe, and is placed, along with that for the Prophet's tomb at Medina, carefully folded, on a camel supporting an elaborate canopy of embroidered gold. These coverings are held so holy that, when the procession passed the Prince and Princess at Cairo, a rush was made by many of the crowd, madly pressing forward, to kiss the golden folds hanging around, and the guards were forced to use their sticks in defence. A large force of troops was out on duty, and some regiments marched in front and in rear of the camel. A very fine regiment of lancers, in a zouave uniform, rode alongside. The Viceroy and his chief officers of state were present, and the camel, with its precious load, and the attendants, moved thrice round the balcony where they stood, the ruler of Egypt uttering, in Arabic, the words: "Go, and God be with you!" The procession then started on its long journey with a royal salute of cannon, while flags and standards were borne around. One functionary, the Sheik-el-Gamel, performing a duty hereditary in his family, rides naked to the waist and bareheaded, on a camel, all the way to Mecca and back, rolling his head of shaggy black hair, and gaining a great odour of sanctity from this fantastic performance of the pilgrimage. Kettledrums borne on camels, and musicians of all Oriental kinds, follow in the distance, and the women in the crowd greet the procession with a curious sound between a whistle and a scream, but of sweet, liquid tone, like the





THE PROCESSION OF THE HOLY CARPETS PAST THE PRINCE  
AND PRINCESS OF WALES AT CAIRO, FEBRUARY 5TH, 1869

From a Drawing by Henry Sandham





cooing of doves. For two hours before the procession of the carpets started, groups of pilgrims went past with banners, drums, and clarionets, and gaily decked camels bore the richer class of travelling devotees in easy litters. The Prince and Princess viewed with great interest the novel and picturesque scene.

We have, from the pen of the Hon. Mrs. Grey, lady-in-waiting to the Princess, an excellent description of a visit made on the same day by the Royal lady and herself, to the harem of "La Grande Princesse", mother of the Viceroy. That exalted personage received her guests at the palace door, attended by the second and third wives of the ruler—the first and fourth wives not being well—and by his eldest son and two eldest daughters. The first proceeding in regard to the Princess of Wales and Mrs. Grey was that a cherry was given them to eat, presented on a beautiful golden tray, with jewelled goblets and plates of gold. Then a slave handed a silver basin to wash hands before dinner. In the middle of the dining-room was a round silver table, about 1 foot in height from the floor, looking like a great tray. All around it were large square cushions, and the visitors sat down cross-legged (*à la Turque*), the Princess of Wales on the right of her hostess, and then Mehemet Tewfik Pasha, the Viceroy's eldest son. In came a slave wearing a skirt of parti-coloured black and yellow satin, gold-embroidered, and with a turban on her head. She bore a lovely embroidered napkin, with fringe of gold, hanging on her left arm, her function being that of *maître d'hôtel*. She placed each dish in the middle of the table, the first being chicken broth with rice. The guests used a spoon of tortoise shell, with a large branch of coral as a handle. Then, at a sign from the hostess, all dipped spoons together into the tureen. Secondly appeared a very large piece of mutton, which, in default of any knife or fork, had to be pulled in bits with the fingers, and so transferred to the mouth. About a score of dishes were quickly served, some sweet, some savoury. Among these were a large omelette; sausages with garlic; vermicelli and sugar; fried fish; a dish of tapioca and rosewater, half-liquid, dressed with almonds

atop, and served in a basin; hashed meat with onions, and mince made of sage, rice, and raw onions, all rolled in a cabbage leaf. Then came pastry and some curious dishes, with sweetmeats, currant jelly, and sour cream served between. The last dish but one of this banquet, terrible to European taste, was a tureen of boiled rice, into which all guests dipped spoons, served alternately with a dish of sweetmeats. A small basin of *compote* of cherries was put before each guest, and the *menu*, which Mrs. Grey describes in plain terms as "a nasty disgusting mess", was complete. She and the Princess were complimented on their way of eating, that is, with the thumb and two fingers (the correct fashion), instead of with all the fingers, which most Europeans employ. During dinner no wine or water was served. When all was over, "La Grande Princesse" handed some liquid, in a kind of tortoise-shell cup, to Mrs. Grey, and that lady, hoping to wash down some of the "rubbish which she had been eating", eagerly seized it and took a large spoonful. She thought it was syrup and water, but it proved to be vinegar, with cut cucumber and herbs therein. She made a very wry face, which caused a great laugh.

Then the guests arose from the floor, and slaves, after handing them to armchairs, brought a very deep silver basin with a small dish full of holes in the middle. A bit of soap was given, and, as they rubbed their fingers with this, a slave poured water over the hands, and this ran through the holes in the dish. A very smart towel, with border richly embroidered in gold, was then presented. The party next went, in procession, back to the large drawing-room or hall, and all sat down on a large divan. The sound of music arose, and in came about twenty performers in uniform, like a military band, wearing trousers and frockcoats with gold buttons and gold lace. All these musicians were girls. The music, played on flutes, two cornets, violin, and guitar, was poor to the taste of the European visitors. Then a dozen or more girls entered to dance, some dressed in yellow satin, embroidered with silver, others in black satin trimmed with gold. All wore bodies of silver gauze, with a gold belt, very loose, and



a large clasp or star of diamonds and other gems hanging down in front. The dancing was rather curious than pretty, some movements being graceful, and others frightful, when the girls moved and shook their heads and various limbs all separately, as if no one member belonged to the others. This performance, to the dismay of the Princess and her attendants, went on for nearly two hours, and when the guests expressed pity, they were told: "Oh, they are never tired, they can dance like this for five hours at a time!" The victims of this Oriental lack of humanity looked, however, much exhausted, and one seemed ready to faint. During the dancing, coffee was several times served, handed on a tray covered with a black velvet cloth about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yard wide, all embroidered with pearls and large uncut emeralds. In the middle was a huge diamond star, quite 5 inches across. Under the cover were tiny cups, like egg-cups, covered with diamonds, and filled with coffee. These were handed round, one by one, by a slave, while another followed to offer a long Turkish pipe set with diamonds, or a cigarette with a most beautiful gemmed holder, the mouthpiece being one large ruby or emerald.

Then the Princess and Mrs. Grey were taken upstairs, passing through many very fine lofty rooms, with very little furniture, the few articles being very gorgeous, mostly in the French style. The chief objects noticed were a great divan, large looking-glasses, a marble table in the middle of the room, and some chairs, and the decoration included profuse gilding. In the bedroom of the hostess there was no furniture except a high divan, and a low one with a striped blanket over it, which article was her bed. There was not a table of any sort, nor a sign of any washing-apparatus. In every apartment, however, Turkish baths are provided on rising. During the visit, the young Prince Tewfik acted as interpreter in fluent French. It was noticed by the lady to whom we are indebted for this account of Egyptian "high life" in modern days, that the "poor Princesses", in their Turkish costumes, had much ado to move about, their legs being wrapped up in a kind of wide trousers, or long petticoats, of

some soft white stuff, which, with long trains to their dresses, made them very awkward. The visitors were taken downstairs again to more music and dancing, performed by a new set of slaves. In this harem there were about 500 females, and hardly a good-looking face was to be seen. They were dressed in the most vulgar and tasteless way, no two alike. One, for example, had a bright-yellow dress with a green velvet jacket; another, a green velvet skirt with red or blue jacket; and some wore hideous round hats with bright flowers and feathers; others had beads in the hair. Many wore diamond ornaments—ear-rings and brooches—while a few had, on the shoulder, the Viceroy's portrait set in diamonds. After another serving of coffee, the Princess and Mrs. Grey departed, the Egyptian ladies all smiling and grinning to show their delight, and tapping their guests hard on the shoulder as a great sign of affection. The Viceroy's female relatives, we are told, and can well believe, were all charmed with the wife of the British heir apparent, and about every ten or fifteen minutes, during the long visit, "La Grande Princesse" uttered in Arabic, for translation by the young Prince, some such phrase as "the Princess is so pleased to see you". We turn now to more refreshing scenes in the open air of the wondrous land in North-eastern Africa.

The Nile expedition of 1869 was, for part of the time, two-fold, as the Duke of Sutherland, with his own set of friends, joined the royal party at Cairo, and journeyed with them up the great river. The Prince and Princess of Wales had with them, as friends and as members of their suite, Prince Louis of Battenberg, Lord Carrington, the Honourable Oliver Montagu (a younger son of the Earl of Sandwich), Sir Samuel Baker, the famous traveller, Lieutenant-Colonel Teesdale, Captain Ellis, Dr. Minter, Dr. William Howard Russell, the notable *Times* correspondent, Mr. Brierly the artist, and Mrs. Grey. Peter Robertson, the Prince's favourite gillie, was there with Mr. Baker, a skilled naturalist and taxidermist, and there were, of course, the needful valets, "dressers", and other servants. The Duke of Sutherland's party included his eldest son, the Marquess of Stafford, Lord Albert

Gower, Major Alison, Professor Richard Owen, the renowned comparative anatomist, and Alister, the Duke's piper. The flotilla of vessels comprised several *dahabeahs* (Nile boats), steamers, and other craft. The splendidly fitted dahabeah *Alexandra* bore the Prince and Princess of Wales, Mrs. Grey, and the special attendants of the royal pair. This boat was towed by a steamer which carried some of the suite, and on which the royal personages took breakfast and dinner. In attendance were a kitchen steamer and a tug with a store boat in tow. On the Duke of Sutherland's boat, *The Ornament of Two Seas*, were his own party and some of the royal suite. A barge, tugged up stream as far as the First Cataract, had on board the Prince's mule, his wife's white donkey, some horses, and a French laundress with her husband and family. A punt for river sport was included in the equipment of the expedition, and due regard for comfort and hospitality was shown in the supply of drinks carried on the provision boat, which included 3000 bottles of champagne, 20,000 bottles of soda water, and 4000 of claret, with sherry, liqueurs, and ale in proportion. We may note, in advance, that the royal pair greatly enjoyed the absolute freedom from restraint and ceremony. Their tour up the Nile included a succession of luncheons, picnics, and teas in romantic spots, such as the shade of hoary ruins or beneath the shelter of picturesque palm trees. The Princess rode her donkey when she was ashore, while the Prince, by turns, walked or mounted his mule. Sometimes dinner was taken on the Duke of Sutherland's vessel, and then the party went off to the Prince's boat, where the playing and singing continued till an early hour next morning. At dawn the Prince would sometimes set off for a day's sport, and his wife rode or walked ashore, or played or sketched in her own dahabeah, upholstered in blue and gold, with awnings, bright rugs, and lounging-chairs on the upper deck.

The start of the little fleet at two o'clock in the afternoon of February 6 was a pretty sight. The Prince's steamer, flying the Royal Standard and the Ottoman flag, led the way. The *Alexandra* dahabeah, the sleeping-boat, followed; next came the steamer bearing some of the Sutherland party, the kitchen steamer,



the Duke's boat, a tender, and the provision barges. The last seen of Cairo was the great mosque of Sultan Hassan, far away, coming into view at a bend of the river, and showing out gloriously in the rays of the setting sun, with its two graceful minarets, exquisite in proportion and effect. For many days the tourists had under their gaze the now familiar Nile pictures, so often sketched in colours, photographs, and words—the endless succession of ruins, waving date palms, waterwheels at work, green fields, bare-legged women of the fellahin class at the riverside, and men, distinguished only by their turbaned heads from their female relatives. Boats, with lateen sails on stumpy masts and huge yards, moved ever downwards, bearing Arab crews and cargoes; mounds of chopped straw piled on deck, heaps of water-jars, and coops of noisy fowls. The sight most sought at this time by other British tourists was not that of antique ruins, but the glimpse of a Prince on the famous river, in the comfort and ease of shooting-jacket, felt hat, and knickerbockers. Parties of Cook's tourists were afloat at many points, and some skilful management was needed in the official controllers of the expedition in order to "dodge" undue curiosity, and proximity which might annoy the personages in their charge. Of danger and adventures in the serious kind, with one exception, there was none, and the tameness of the smooth river-voyage was varied only by the incidents of sport or an occasional running aground for a time. When the sun had set, wandering natives on the river banks might hear the tinkling of a piano, the refrain of songs, and the clamour of choruses from the merry party in the saloon of the Prince's boat.

The royal tourist, in his love of sport, was very eager to shoot a crocodile. His gillie, Peter Robertson, was a typical "Scottie", heartily devoted to the killing of game, but it was only after great toil and many vain attempts that the Prince at last "bagged" one of the big, ugly creatures. Day after day, for long hours, he had risen early and lain on the banks of the river, under a hot sun, lurking behind stones or crouching in the mud, and had once or twice spent a whole day in pits hollowed

out in the sands, without once seeing a specimen. We shall see in due time how these efforts were at last rewarded. Guided by the pen of Dr. Russell, in his excellent diary of the tour, we note the chief incidents from day to day. On Sunday, February 7, the vessels were being directed in their course by cries from the banks uttered by watchmen, or by the advice of natives in their boats. The channel of the Nile is constantly shifting, and the Viceroy had sent up orders to have the course of the river closely observed for the flotilla, and for its progress to be watched and attended by horsemen to shout instructions to the steersmen of the various craft. Whenever the royal vessel stopped at the banks, numbers of natives, chiefly children, used to come down to stare at the party. The Princess would then throw them oranges and bread; but what they most valued was the empty bottles which she flung one by one into the water. Then the wild creatures dived in after them, and enquiry showed that the use made of these treasures was to hang them up by a string as an ornament to the hut ceiling. On February 8 some rain, a very rare phenomenon in that region, was falling, and a cold, fierce wind raised the water into foam-crested waves of a dun hue, while a yellowish fog lay over the stream. On that afternoon the Prince went off in the punt and shot seven spoonbills, birds allied, in natural history, to the ibis and the stork, and two black storks. He then caught some fish in a net for dinner. On the following day the vessels lay to for a time in a dense, soft white mist; when the voyage was resumed, the royal sportsman, at one shot from the big gun, brought down twenty-eight flamingoes. At various towns upwards a Governor or Bey, with his suite, attended to pay his respects. A warm bright day succeeded, and many geese, pelicans, ducks, cormorants, cranes, and herons were seen on the banks, but no crocodile appeared. At one spot, the Prince started for a large sandbank, when the fleet was moored, to see two draws of the nets, with over a score of men tugging at the ropes and shouting vigorously, the capture consisting of one small fish. One evening the Duke of Sutherland and his party were invited to dinner on the royal steamer, and

Achmet Hassan, the captain of the vessel, was among the guests. His lively manners, good humour, and expressive use of broken English, in which he made some good hits, caused much amusement. He spoke of a visit to England years ago, and of seeing the Prince there as "nice small boy". Before dinner was over he rose amid laughter and cheers and proposed "The Health of the Queen of England", saying "Get you all up (*i.e.* stand up) you know". The Prince responded with the Viceroy's health, which was warmly received.

On February 11 the travellers had a day of marvellous beauty in weather and scenes, as they passed through a rich country of sugar plantations and verdant fields, with waterworks at many points, for irrigation, and the smooth stream covered with craft under sail or boats forced against the wind by rowers tugging at great oars to the rhythm of a chorus in plaintive tones. On the western bank appeared a high range of rock, with glimpses of sandy desert, and countless birds ashore, including vast flocks of blue and grey herons. In passing a rocky spot the Prince made some excellent shots at single cormorants, swarms of which were roosting in and flying about the recesses of noble cliffs. The limestone range, called Gebel Abu-feda, was seen pierced in all directions by square apertures leading to mining chambers. Navigation was here made very difficult by the twists and bends of the river. Two dahabeahs, one with the British flag, the other with the "Stars and Stripes" flying, were passed, and then the royal flotilla overtook a very large handsome boat bearing the French tricolour. The people aboard greeted the royal tourists with the proper salute, fired from pistols, double and single-barrelled. At Siout the party were received by the Governor and his suite, with about thirty irregular cavalry, and many horses, carriages, and donkeys in waiting. It was dusk at this time, and the shore was brilliantly illuminated. The town, one of about 30,000 people at this period, was a place of great importance in Upper Egypt as a starting-point and terminus of caravans to and from Dongola. On the following day (February 12), the Prince, Princess, Mrs. Grey, and the suite visited the city, lying



about 2 miles away from the Nile, and saw the American Mission school of eighty pupils, the Mosque, and the Egyptian school, where the boys were absent, as it was Friday. The Princess, in mounting her horse, severely sprained her thumb, which caused pain enough to bring tears to her eyes. The royal pair made some purchases in the bazaar, and the flotilla at 2.30 p.m. resumed its upward course. Still no crocodiles were seen, though a reward of 20 piastres (about 3s. 4d.) was offered to any of the crew who should first observe one, and double the amount if it were killed. There can be little doubt that the number of vessels in the flotilla, the noise of the steamer paddles, and the shouting, from the bank, of the men employed to guide the course, frightened off the creatures so eagerly sought, for crocodiles, big and ugly, are as shy and timid as young girls ought to be in this age of civilization. Meanwhile, the Prince's taxidermist was busily preparing specimen spoonbills, mallards, flamingoes, merlins, hawk-owls, cranes, herons, cormorants, hoopoes, and doves; scarcely any land game bird had yet been shot. In the evening the Prince and some of his friends landed at the mooring place for the night, and got some pigeons, a small owl, a hoopoe, and one or two other birds. A small crowd of natives attended their movements, and the people were surprised and delighted when the royal sportsman had money paid them for the pigeons killed. There was a glorious sunset over a distant line of desert hills which closed a wide stretch of Egyptian (bearded) wheat, dotted with acacias and date palms, and here and there blurred by the brown heap which indicated a hamlet of the fellahin, crouching under its groves of palm.

It was at 6.30 p.m. on February 13 that the vessels put ashore for the night at Girgeh, 341 miles from Cairo. A line of fifty lanterns, hung from posts, lighted up the landing place, and there were men who held blazing pinewood torches in iron hoops at the end of long poles. Hundreds of men and boys stood and lay around the fires to gaze at the newcomers and their craft. The town, on the left (western) bank of the river, lies about 9 miles north-west of the ancient Abydos, and owes its name to the Coptic monastery of St. George or Girgis. It is the seat of a Coptic

bishop, and has several mosques, and a Roman Catholic monastery which ranks as the oldest in Egypt. On the following day a stop was made at Keneh, the next seat of the governor of a province up river. The Nile was very low, and the town lay 2 miles away from the high bluff, covered with palm trees and occupied by a village, where the flotilla was drawn up. A crowd of turbaned sheiks, with the British consular agent, and the deputy-governor of Esneh, were waiting to honour the royal party. It was then too late to visit the town, but the Prince accepted the consular agent's invitation to see a dance. On landing, an accident happened to the platform on which Lord Carrington leapt from the royal steamer, bringing the planking down with a crash, and sending himself, Prince Louis of Battenberg, and Mr. Oliver Montagu into the water. They soon scrambled up the bank, dripping like Newfoundland dogs, none the worse for the mishap. On the following day (February 15) the Princess of Wales saw her first Egyptian temple, at Keneh. The edifice was a quite modern thing for the Nile, only 1800 years old, highly ornate. It was very interesting to her to see portraits of Cleopatra, and of her son by Julius Cæsar, carved in the solid rock and still quite fresh, and to wander through courts where Romans came to worship the Egyptian Venus. At the other side of the river, a visit was made to Dendera, 2 miles from the shore at "low Nile". The Prince was on horseback, and the Princess rode her milk-white (and noisy) donkey. It was a pretty sight, Dr. Russell tells us, to see her wandering about the grand ruins and watch her tracing out the features, with the aid of a cane, of Cleopatra in stone upon the walls, and to think of the contrast between the royal Dane and the "Serpent of Old Nile". For hours the party strolled here and there, while the hum of their voices roused up bats and hawks in the recesses of the masonry. A fire was kindled, and luncheon was taken in the shade of the portico, and then the chibouquejees, or pipe-bearers, came with diamond-studded pipes and jewelled coffee cups, and repose was taken for a time in the cool of the ruins, though the thermometer, even there, stood at 73 degrees.

Before sunset the voyage towards Thebes was resumed, and in the dusk the flotilla, as usual, put ashore. Luxor was reached at 9 a.m. on February 16. The day was very hot, and the sunshades were spread over the travellers' boats moored below the ruins. The royal party were welcomed by these other tourists—British, Russians, Americans—with volleys from fowling-pieces, varied by shots of a small cannon on shore. From the summit of the ancient Greek temple, in which Mustapha Aga, the British consular agent, had his dwelling planted like a swallow's nest against the leaves, floated the flags of Great Britain and the United States; and Austrian, French, Russian, and Ottoman standards were displayed at various points. The boats of the foreign tourists were adorned with palm branches, oranges, and lemons, and on the river banks the chief people were gathered to receive the royal party. The Prince landed to see Mustapha Aga's collection of curiosities, and the Princess, Mrs. Grey, and the gentlemen also went ashore. At noon the royal pair and many of the suite started for Karnak, a pretty spectacle, showing the Princess mounted on her white ass, equipped in red velvet and gold, and the Prince on another donkey of darker hue. The large party was preceded and surrounded by chibouquejees, syces (grooms), guides, and dragomans—a gay crowd on horses and asses, cantering in clouds of dust, bright with fantastic dresses, turbaned, loose-robed, in a long stream over verdant irrigated land and sandy soil, now spreading out like a fan of many hues, and now condensed in an undulating cord along the plain. The ruins of Karnak have been described in another part of this record. The Prince and his wife roved about the marvellous place, exploring chambers and recesses. It was very hot, and luncheon was taken in a shady spot of the vast colonnade of the Great Hall. Carpets were there spread, and a Russian officer (Count Gerbel) and his wife were invited by the Prince to join his party. A beautiful effect was produced by streaks of sunshine falling through rifted walls and between colossal columns on groups of Egyptians, Arabs, Turks, Arnauts, and guides gathered about the horses and donkeys in the vast struc-



ture, and on the Europeans in their coats, boots, hats, and knickerbockers of various styles. After pipes and coffee, the royal party remounted and returned to Luxor, where the temples were inspected. At 5 p.m. they rejoined the flotilla. At night the vessels were illuminated, the dahabeahs being hung with lanterns, and the river reflecting the blaze of hundreds of fires. Blue lights were burned, and flights of rockets rushed up towards the calm bright-starred sky. The avenue of palms and the façade of Mustapha's house were lit up; beacons shone on the banks, and native boats floated down to the music of wild choruses and so vanished into the gloom. On February 17 there came an interesting visit to the Valley of Kings on the west bank of the river. The party were mounted on over sixty horses and asses, and there was a great assemblage of natives from the desert. Crowds of Arab children, both boys and girls, kept up with the tourists, carrying pitchers of water, and offering "antiques" for sale. They were timid and yet persistent creatures, eager for "baksheesh", and desirous to please. The Prince and Princess gave much kindly notice to these little persons. The day was very hot. The royal pair, on reaching the scene of operations, dived deep underground among rough stones and broken slabs, the Princess bearing the toilsome work with endless goodwill and showing a most adventurous spirit. It was interesting to watch those who were one day to be King and Queen, prying into inscriptions concerning royalty that perished thousands of years before. The Princess, on this occasion, showed herself far stronger than many of the men in enduring fatigue, and her keen interest and delight gave animation to all around. At last the party made for daylight, and luncheon was taken in the shade afforded by the entrance to a tomb. The evening was so warm and calm that the Prince, Lord Carrington, Mr. Montagu, and Lord Stafford took a boat across the river and bathed.

The following day, February 18, was a toilsome one for the tourists. At an early hour the river was crossed in boats, and horses and donkeys were then mounted in order to visit the ruins, which include the Memnonium, the two Colossi, and the vocal

Memnon, all of which have been previously described. At 5.30 p.m. the party returned to the vessels. The Inspector-General of Upper Egypt, Abd-el-Sultan Bey, came aboard the royal steamer, and after dinner the Prince, Princess, and their party landed for a visit to the Karnak temples. One of the most striking scenes of the tour was now presented. The interior of the stupendous ruins was illuminated by magnesium wire. Blue lights burned on the projecting walls, and from broken pillars and heaped-up ruins Egyptian soldiers, motionless as if hewn in stone, held forth blazing torches to the approbation of the jack tars who had drilled them. Rockets flew high in air, crossing over the obelisks in their course, and throwing down showers of stars in varied hues on the broken walls and towers. Murmurs of delight arose from the gazers on this weird and splendid spectacle, and Sir Samuel Baker and other adventurous climbers were seen perched, magnesium wire in hand, at various elevated points. Then the vast temple was left in gloom for a brief space of time, and the illumination was renewed when the royal party had turned into another hall. The Prince and Princess started back for Luxor amid ringing cheers expressing general pleasure at the grand display. The Princess, who had come along on her white donkey at full canter with Colonel Teesdale, Lord Carrington, Lord A. Gower, and others in attendance on foot, and a crowd of syces with lanterns, was so delighted with her novel experience that, when she found herself the first back at the riverside, she returned to pick up the Prince, who had come along at a more leisurely pace.

On February 19 the flotilla left Luxor at 5.30 a.m., a lovely dawn, and, reaching Esneh at noon, was at Edfu, 62 miles above Thebes, by dusk. Here came the only accident of the tour, one which might have had very serious results. At nearly 10 p.m. the Prince, from the deck of his steamer, saw a light reflected on the side of the royal dahabeah alongside. He instantly gave the alarm, and the Princess and Mrs. Grey were hurried ashore. The Duke of Sutherland, so often in attendance, as we have seen, with the Prince at accidental conflagrations in London, seized a

rug, dashed into the flames in the cabin, and, with the aid of the Prince and others, beat out the fire. A lighted candle in Prince Louis of Battenberg's cabin, wafted by the night breeze, had caught a curtain. The boat, with its muslin hangings, wooden panels, and paint scorched by an Egyptian sun, would have been quickly ablaze from stem to stern, and the considerable store of cartridges and of powder in cases would have caused an explosion with effect that remained happily unknown. In the afternoon of the following day the whole flotilla grounded for a time, and all the tourists had to land on an island sandbank as the sun set behind the desert ridge of rock and sands. The sailors soon lightened the vessels by carrying baggage ashore, so that, after an hour's hard work, the royal steamer was afloat to the sound of a general cheer. All the vessels were got off at 10 p.m., and moored to the bank. The Prince, Princess, and suite took dinner on the Duke's vessel, and the cooks did their best, the Spanish *chef* producing a masterpiece of confectionery in burnt almonds, with a flag atop showing *Ich Dien*. It was February 20, the birthday of the royal pair's eldest daughter, the Princess Louise Victoria, whose health the Duke proposed in a neat speech. A droll incident occurred after dinner, as related by Dr. Russell, one of the guests. A large black sheep with a huge hanging tail, an animal marked out for mutton on the following day, came in Lord Stafford's way on deck, and he led it aft to show the Princess. The creature, "with a tact worthy of a ram-headed gentleman-in-waiting of the time of the Pharaohs, at once made itself at home, ate from the Princess's hand, and rose to such a height of favour at Court that its life was spared, by royal command, and the sheep was appointed to grow fat and be glad in the pastures at Sandringham. Decked with a garland of ribbons when its good future was known, it received many marks of attention in the shape of cabbages and the like from the crew, and was known as 'Her Royal Highness's sheep'." At 1 p.m. on February 21 the expedition reached Assouan, 581 miles south of Cairo. A pretty reception was accorded by the tourists on many Nile boats moored by the western bank,





THE LANDING PLACE, ASSOUAN



where the town lies, and there was a brisk firing of salutes from guns and pistols, and a vivid display of British, French, and American flags. The stage at the landing place was lit up at dusk with coloured lanterns, and on the flat sandy beach left by the receding river there was an extensive array of dromedaries, harnessed horses, and saddled asses, with their attendants, forming a picture enclosed in a fringe of date palms and the rocky ridge of the desert range beyond. A group of Arabs, provided with shields and long swords, and having their hair dressed in the most fantastic style, arrived to go through their martial exercises, and from the distance came the long wailing cry of welcome raised at the villages inland.

The *Times* diarist in attendance on the royal tourists gives us a vivid description of the sight presented by the flotilla in its progress up and down the great stream, as a "procession of steamers and other craft winding in and out, ribandwise, and twining along the bends in the river, with the sun flashing from the white sides and gilt mouldings of the chief vessels, and reflected back from the burnished garniture of the saloons. Beneath the awnings the Prince could be seen standing, on the lookout for birds, with rifle and smooth-bore near at hand, his suite reading, or lounging in the easy chairs on deck; and farther aft, in a kind of boudoir, all bright with mirrors and golden-backed sofas and chairs, one had a glimpse of two ladies engaged in reading, or sketching." February 22 was "a day of small mishaps". The Prince had gone to pay a visit to Lady Duff Gordon, whose dahabeah lay about 2 miles up stream, and the Princess, with the Hon. Mrs. Grey, the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Carrington, Dr. Minter, and others, started on a heavy native boat for the foot of the First Cataract, about 3 miles above Assouan, where donkeys were to be ready. At this point the great river divides itself into several streams and meanders among rocky islets. The Princess's boat took a wrong branch, and came to a bank of loose deep sand, on a bed of craggy rocks, under a glaring sun. The Prince, after seeing Lady Duff Gordon, started for another point below the Cataract,



and his boat got stuck on a place exactly similar to that where his wife found herself. When the Egyptian official in waiting with the donkeys learned from his Arab scouts posted on rocks, that the Princess's boat was going astray, he dashed round with his donkey-boys, to meet her where she would land; but nothing could be seen of her. As it chanced, two donkeys, very poor specimens for Egypt, were near the spot where the Princess at last got ashore. There were neither saddles nor bridles for the beasts, but only a pad without girths on their backs, and on these the Princess and Mrs. Grey had to balance themselves and steer for Philæ. The Princess laughed and appeared to enjoy her skill in poising herself on the ass. The gentlemen had all to trudge for 3 miles over sand into which the foot sank ankle deep at every step, or over rocky ridges and scattered boulders and stones. It was for them a most toilsome procedure. In an hour or more they overtook the Prince and Sir Samuel Baker, who had a long wait for their donkeys. The whole party halted to view the performance of Arabs who, in hope of winning "baksheesh", swim down the boiling current of the First Cataract. The spectators stand on rocks at the end of the rapids, and the black natives leap into the water one after another from a ledge, and are seen bobbing about like the corks of a fisherman's net, and then, with arms raised aloft in turns, they are carried down for a quarter of a mile whirling through the foam to the feet of the spectators, and scramble up to fight for the money flung to them. An Arab had never been drowned in this adventurous feat, but several rash Englishmen who tried to imitate the natives had perished at various times.

Above the First Cataract were the vessels to which the royal party were to be transferred for the voyage to the Second Cataract, and long strings of camels were seen coming across the desert with stores, furniture, and baggage for that part of the trip. On the island of Philæ a French inscription was found, recording, in "L'an VI de la République", the arrival of Bonaparte in Egypt, his defeat of the Mamelukes, and the pursuit of the enemy by Generals Desaix, Davoust, Friant, Belliard, and

Donzelot. Meals were taken by the royal party in a spacious tent, in three compartments, pitched by the river bank and handsomely carpeted; there were two separate tents arranged for the servants. After dinner the facetious Captain Achmet Hassan proposed the health of the Prince and Princess and the Duke in his peculiar English; and then the Duke gave, for his own party, "A prosperous voyage and happy return to Prince and Princess", and also "The Viceroy". Mourad Pasha, returning thanks in excellent French, proposed "The Queen of England", which was drunk upstanding with loud cheers. Then the visitors sat by moonlight on the banks, in groups, listening to the songs of the Arabs and the "music" of native performers.

At this point of the tour the Duke of Sutherland and his guests bade farewell to the royal party and returned to Thebes, while the Prince, Princess, and their suite proceeded upwards to the Second Cataract. At 3.30 p.m. on February 25 the Prince at last saw a crocodile. A very large specimen was viewed ahead, basking on a sandbank. The royal sportsman had the steamer stopped, and he and Sir Samuel Baker entered the boat and were cautiously rowed ashore. As they were crouching under the banks, another very large crocodile was seen. The creatures were wideawake to their foes, and before the two "stalkers" could creep up within 150 yards, the game slipped gently into the water and vanished. The Prince and his comrade remained until sunset sweltering in the heat, but nothing appeared. After dinner, the Prince and several others went ashore to try for hyenas by moonlight, each sportsman being posted at a different spot, near a piece of decaying meat as a bait. The Prince saw a hyena, but a gabbling native huntsman scared it away before he could raise his rifle. On the following day the new flotilla of two dahabeahs, a small steamer carrying the royal servants, and a boat laden with coal and provisions, arrived at Korosko, halfway from Philæ to Wady Halfa. At this point the road strikes across the desert to the great bend of the river at Abu-Hamed. The Prince and Princess were much interested by the sight of a caravan from the upper

regions, encamped on the river bank, loaded with ivory, gums, ostrich feathers, and other products. After more disappointment with crocodiles seen on the sand, and vanishing into the river before shot-range could be reached in the small boat, five of the creatures were, on February 28, caught sight of on a long sandbank near Abou-Simbel. As the steamer approached, they all slowly, one after the other, made for the water; but, when the vessel had passed, three came out to bask in the sun. The Prince, Sir Samuel Baker, Colonel Teesdale, and Lord Carrington entered the boat and reached the bank to leeward, and then the Prince and Sir Samuel crept up wind towards the crocodiles. Two were alarmed and entered the water, but one was less cautious and became a victim. Slowly and steadily the two sportsmen crept over the burning sand to a point within 50 yards. Then the Prince stood up, took a steady aim, and fired, and the crocodile turned over on its side, quivering in death. The expanding bullet had gone through its head. Sir Samuel Baker, to make sure, ran up and sent a Snider bullet through its jaw. The people on the steamer cheered, and the Princess, greatly pleased and excited by her husband's success, went off to the sandbank and examined the game, which was then handed over to Mr. Baker the naturalist. It proved to be a female, 9 feet 2 inches long, and 47 inches in girth.

After an inspection of the temples at Abou-Simbel, the party reached Wady-Halfa, 220 miles above Assuan, and nearly 1000 from Cairo. After breakfast, the Prince, Princess, and suite, mounted on donkeys and dromedaries, took a hot, dreary, dusty ride for  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles along the eastern bank to the Second Cataract. Under the rocks near the boiling pools they had luncheon, and rode back in the evening. On the following day (March 3) the royal party crossed in boats to the western shore, and, mounted in the same style, rode for about 7 miles along high ground to a steep cliff, above 450 feet high, overhanging the rapids of the Second Cataract, which extend and are there visible for many miles. At 4.30, after luncheon in two large tents which had been sent forward, and a grand view of a mountain range 40 miles



away, the Prince, Lord Carrington, Sir Samuel Baker, and Dr. Minter returned in a boat down the rapids, while the Princess, Mrs. Grey, and the rest of the party rode back by the riverside.

The limit of the tour up the Nile had now been reached, and on March 4 the flotilla started down stream. There were more failures in attempts on crocodiles, though Colonel Teesdale hit one over the eye and made it sink. At last three pits were dug, containing a bait composed of sheep entrails, but the sportsmen, with the heat at 140 degrees in the sun, waited and watched in vain, and vultures finally took the bait. The river was getting very low, and the royal steamer was several times aground. Thebes was reached on March 10, the royal dahabeah being tugged down as on the upward journey. The day was the sixth anniversary of the royal marriage, and Mourad Pasha proposed the healths of the pair. There were illuminations, including a display of coloured lanterns, red and blue lights, rockets, and Roman candles, ashore and on board the vessels. At 1 p.m. the Prince and Princess went ashore to the house of Mustapha Aga, in front of the Greek temple, and saw a dance of native girls. On the way down Nile, a sugar factory at Rhoda, the private property of Ismail Pasha, was visited. On March 15 one of the Nile boats, with Mourad Pasha and others aboard, became unmanageable in a violent northerly gale, and was run into by two other vessels of the flotilla. Then, at 6.45 a.m., while all passengers were still abed, she fouled the anchor of a corn-laden boat, filled, and had to be driven ashore, all goods being flung out on the bank. Cairo was reached at 2 p.m. on March 16, and the royal party, received by Tewfik Pasha, were driven in a four-horse *char-à-banc*, a "sociable" and four, and two smaller carriages, drawn by grey Normandy horses, with postilions and piqueurs, to the Pyramids. The Princess and others climbed to the entrance of the Pyramid of Cheops, and groped their way through the passage into the inner chamber. The Prince and some of the gentlemen, attended by Arabs, reached the top of the same structure. After a visit on donkeys to the Sphinx,

and dinner at a new chalet erected at the foot of the Pyramids, the party drove back at 10 p.m. to the Ezbekiyeh Palace at the capital.

On the following day the royal pair inspected the Citadel and the Great Mosque, where the tomb of Mehemet Ali is preserved under an embroidered velvet catafalque, with reverential care. The Prince and Princess ascended one of the graceful minarets, and from the platform had a grand panoramic view of Cairo and the environs. Thence they went to Bir Yusef (Joseph's Well), a curious tank hewn in rock, about 260 feet deep, part of the way being descended by them in a circular gallery. The tombs of the Caliphs, outside the city, were visited; and on March 18, on the Khedive's return to Cairo, the Prince and his wife accompanied him to the theatre. Before the capital was quitted, ceremonial visits were exchanged, and a grand dinner was given to the royal pair at the New Gizeh Palace. This was an entertainment of enchanting splendour. The plate was of the richest character, and the meal was served in the exquisitely adorned Banqueting Hall in the Garden Kiosk, the gem of the Viceroy's many residences. The place is a gorgeously fitted Moorish villa. After dinner the party proceeded to the open courts and colonnades. The evening was fine, and the scene was like one from the *Arabian Nights* in the spectacle of people in gala dress, of the gardens lit up like day, and the ornamental water reflecting the Oriental figures as they moved about the marble courts with their clusters of graceful pillars.

On March 20 the Prince drove to Miss Whately's British Mission School. At the doorway two rows of lads sang, to a native melody, Arabic verses written for the occasion. As the royal visitor entered, the pupils gave the Eastern salute. Some of the head class read in English; others answered questions in geography. The Prince expressed his pleasure in seeing the order preserved and the appearance of the pupils. The girls made an even better impression. Every variety of material and colour was seen in the dress of the seventy-eight scholars, from the brocaded silk trousers and vest of the wealthy to the print

frock of the peasant. The poor among the girls were numerous, but many wore borrowed garbs, and some had even obtained jewels from friends for the occasion. A very pretty effect was produced by the green, pink, and blue gauze veils, the ordinary festival dress of children in Egypt, hanging gracefully over the plaited locks of dark hair, and shading the brown, clean, bright faces. The Prince then returned to the boys' school and examined their handwriting in Arabic and English. Then, with a salute to the young people and their masters, and a hand-shake to the ladies, he took his leave. In a short time the Princess arrived, with Mrs. Grey and Abd-el-Kader Bey. The royal lady won all hearts by her kindly look and gracious manners. The pupils repeated, in Arabic, two or three texts of Scripture, which Miss Whately translated. Then came a display of needlework, the Princess specially admiring the native work of gold embroidery on crape, of which she took away a specimen. "It may here be remarked," says Dr. Russell in his excellent account of the tour, "that this visit to the school must have made some impression in Egypt. One of the missionaries had expressed a hope to some high native official in Cairo that the British Prince and Princess would visit the schools, and had received the reply, dictated by ignorance alike of British character and of the special virtues of these two distinguished Britons, that 'Princes and Kings don't care about poor children and schools'." In the afternoon of the same day the royal party attended the races given in their honour by the Viceroy.

The Prince and Princess were driven in a six-horse char-à-banc, preceded and followed by two piqueurs in full uniform, and by a body of Viceregal police on horseback. The rest of the party went in four-horse chars-à-bancs. A horrible *khamsein* wind raised clouds of dust, not much laid by the efforts of native water-carriers with their skins. The course was lined by troops and police, and a guard of honour and a fine band were in attendance. The English horses which ran, allowing much weight, we note, to the Arab steeds, were beaten. The day ended with a State performance at the theatre, followed by supper with the Viceroy.



We now give a sketch of an Egyptian "interior" at Cairo, furnished by the Hon. Mrs. Grey. The Princess of Wales had been so much pleased by the attention and kindness and tact of Mourad Pasha that she desired to visit his wife, and accordingly she and Mrs. Grey drove with him to his house. This lay in the old town, and on the way the visitors saw a succession of large flower gardens, and kitchen gardens with fruit trees, and specially fig trees resembling gigantic cactuses. Mourad Pasha's residence was found to be a delightful place. The visitors passed first through a large courtyard where five or six gazelles, and some beautiful large wild ducks, were wandering about. Then they entered a lovely garden full of tall rose trees and jessamine bushes, orange trees and other growths—a most delicious mingling of perfumes in a vast area devoted entirely to flowers and blossoming shrubs. At the house they were met by Madame Mourad, a lady not pretty but of most kindly look, who spoke French well, her father being half a Frenchman. Sherif Pasha, Minister of the Interior to the Viceroy, had married her sister, and all dwelt together in the same house, with the mother-in-law and an unmarried sister. The lady of the house was very smartly arrayed, quite *à la Turque*, in a loose peach-coloured satin dress, and trousers of the same, with a gold band fastened round the waist by a large diamond clasp. She wore a necklace of enormous diamonds, diamond and pearl ear-rings, and a violet velvet headdress with diamond ornaments. In conversation she was very pleasant. When the Princess and Mrs. Grey, after being presented with huge nosegays, took their leave, Madame Mourad could not come out with them, even into the garden, as she was not veiled.

On March 23 the two ladies paid another visit to "La Grande Princesse". On this occasion the second and third wives of the Viceroy appeared, now almost in European dress, a beautiful silk, the bodices made in French fashion, and the skirts looped up so as to show the wide trousers underneath. Both looked very pretty, cheerful, and happy. The fourth wife, mother of the Crown Prince, was there also, and there were many other ladies.

After the usual coffee, pipes, and some singing, the Prince of Wales arrived to fetch his wife, and the Princesses escorted the visitors to the garden gate, and seemed much amused when their royal visitor tried by signs to entice them outside to see the Prince, who, with the gentlemen of his suite, had been smoking in another room. The Princess, during her stay in Cairo, drove often through the town, and rode on donkey-back through the bazaars with Mrs. Grey, taking much delight in shopping and bargaining through her interpreter. In the evening the Princess and Mrs. Grey dined at the Palace of Gizeh with the Viceroy's four wives. On this occasion the party sate on chairs instead of on a divan on the floor. The Egyptian ladies were delighted to receive the photographs of their royal visitor. Before leaving, the Princess of Wales expressed a wish to see how their outdoor veils were fastened on, so the princesses sent for some, and the third wife began to put one on their royal visitor, while another dressed up Mrs. Grey. The young Prince begged them to drive home thus disguised, and so make the Prince of Wales believe that his wife had been kept, and a slave sent in her place. The British ladies' eyebrows were also painted, and, the thin veil having been put over the upper and lower parts of the face, a kind of silk cloak or burnous was thrown over, which they were begged to keep as a souvenir of the visit. At leave-taking, the Egyptian princesses kissed their visitors, and expressed great pleasure in having received them. On reaching the Ezbekiyeh Palace, the Princess and Mrs. Grey found all the gentlemen gone to bed except the Prince, who was dining with the Viceroy, so no one saw them in their novel guise except Mr. Kanne, the able and excellent courier.

On March 24, the royal party left Cairo, after taking leave of the Viceroy, and started to inspect the works of the Suez Canal, the gigantic and important enterprise then nearing its completion. Suez Station was reached by special train at 6.30 p.m., the Prince and Princess being received by the Consul, Mr. West, and other British and Egyptian officials, and officers. Amid loud cheers from the Europeans, they walked between

continuous lines of troops to the Suez Hotel, under a royal salute from the shipping in the roads. The inner court of the building displayed, in the garden, a Prince of Wales plume over a transparency bearing the words "God bless the Prince and Princess of Wales", and Bengali servants, in white turbans and caftans, were drawn up in the passage. The guests at the royal dinner table included the famous engineer, Monsieur Ferdinand de Lesseps, and two of his chief assistants, the Governor of Suez, Mr. West, and Major Clerk, the officer in charge of the Queen's troops in transit to and from the East—the distinguished Frenchman being placed on the left of the Princess. On the following day, at 9 a.m., the party went by train to the end of the pier running out into the old roadstead, at the extremity of which are the docks made by the Suez Canal Company, and the dry dock. After inspecting these under charge of M. de Lesseps and M. Larousse—the chief-engineer of that section of the canal works—the royal visitors embarked on H.M.S. *Prompt*, and crossed to the opposite side of the channel or sea-arm, near the western end of which the town of Suez is situated, in order to view the canal at its entrance into the Red Sea. The *Prompt* conveyed the visitors up to the first (or lowest) barrage, a few hundred yards from the sea-entrance. The machinery used for cutting the canal was examined, and beyond the barrage or dyke were the pumps, dredgers, and great machines at work on other sections. The *Prompt*, a vessel of 120 tons, was the first steamship of any size that had gone up the great waterway from the Red Sea.

At noon the party, still attended by Messieurs de Lesseps and Larousse, left by train for Ismailia, stopping at Shalouf to cross the Freshwater Canal on a pontoon. About thirty saddle-horses of the Company were in waiting, with a small basket carriage for the Princess, Mrs Grey, and M. de Lesseps. Then the visitors passed through the pretty little streets, lined with wooden chalets and gardens, of Shalouf, one of the Company's *campements*, or temporary settlements, on the line of the canal works. The Prince, mounted on a handsome Arab, followed the



pony carriage with the other horsemen. At this point the works showed a series of cuttings about 100 feet deep, and over 70 feet wide at the bottom. The party went southwards, along a good roadway, towards a barrage, examining on the way the working of the inclined planes on which trucks of earth and stone excavated by the Arabs and Europeans below were run up to the top of the mounds above the roadway and tilted over, while the empty trucks were at the same time let down to the scene of excavation by the same action of the steam engines. On the way back the Princess received a bouquet of flowers culled from the gardens in the desert, and M. de Lesseps presented her with a bough of orange blossoms grown at Shalouf. The journey to the next halting place, 33 miles from Shalouf, occupied one and a half hours, and then the royal party left the train for a small steamer which conveyed them along the Freshwater Canal to Serapeum, another *campement* of the Company, on the shore of the Maritime Canal, north of the Bitter Lakes. This place was a small town of wooden houses, neatly built and painted, with gardens here and there rich in fruit trees and flowers, and showing hotels, shops, stores, cafés, and restaurants placed on a very high ridge above the desert plateau. The whole of the little colony turned out, and the royal visitors were received by Madame de Lesseps and many other French ladies and gentlemen. A guard of cavasses (policemen) was on duty at a great flight of wooden steps leading from the top of the embankment to the canal, and below lay two larger and two smaller steamers of the Company's fleet. On these the visitors embarked for the great barrage or dam which then alone kept the waters of the Mediterranean from flowing into the Bitter Lakes in an impetuous and destructive torrent. At this time the Canal was open from Port Said, at the Mediterranean end of the waterway, as far as this barrage, for all vessels drawing 15 feet of water. In most places the full depth of 8 metres (26 feet) had been attained.

It was necessary for the sea-water to be let gradually into the vast empty basin of the dried-up Bitter Lakes. A few

days prior to the royal visit, the dam at Tusoun, which kept out the sea-water, had been cut, and the supply of water from the Freshwater Canal was stopped. In twelve hours, four millions of cubic metres of water had entered the void space, with a stronger current than had been expected, and the impetuous stream, rushing through to the lower level, swept away some of the dredging-machines, overturned one, and drowned one or two workmen. The trench of the Freshwater Canal was thus rapidly emptied into the lower level of the newly made Maritime Canal, and millions of freshwater fish, on which crowds of gulls began to feed, perished in the water coming from the sea. At this end of the Maritime Canal there was a reservoir with a wooden barrier parallel to the canal course, provided with a large number of small *écluses* or floodgates. A sloping ledge of planking led from the level of the canal bed, at the bottom of the sluices, to the natural depression of the bed of the Bitter Lakes, and on the opening of a sluice a stream of water could rush over this ledge across an artificial mound of rocks and fall into the lake bed. When the Prince and Princess reached this barrier, a number of workmen were ready at the sluices with levers and sledge-hammers, and M. de Lesseps conducted the party to a narrow bridge, or trestlework, below it, extending across the narrow end of the lake bed, from which they could see at their ease the rush of water. The Viceroy, a few days previously, had seen the first of the sluices opened; but the water which had passed through had been only enough to form a large pool at the neck of the lake bed. The fish of the Mediterranean had, however, already found their way to this pool, and were seen disporting in the rush of water over the stones. When the Prince and Princess had seen the nature of the works, a dozen or more of the sluices, at a given signal, were raised, and the salt water spurted forth in a milk-white gush from as many freshly opened sources, and flowed quickly away to its appointed bed. After watching this interesting spectacle for some time, the party returned on two steamers to the Maritime Canal at Serapeum, and thence northwards by rail to Ismailia, about

14 miles away, which was reached at dusk. The royal visitors rested for the night in the Viceroy's kiosk or pavilion 4 miles beyond Ismailia, and on the next morning (March 26) they went on, by rail and steamboat, to Port Said, which was reached about 6 p.m. There they went aboard the Viceroy's beautiful yacht the *Mahrousseh*, and proceeded to Alexandria for the night. Thus concluded the pleasant trip in Egypt.

On the morning of March 27 the Prince, Princess, and suite embarked on H.M.S. *Ariadne* for Constantinople. The man-of-war was met at the Dardanelles by the Sultan's steam yacht, bringing down the *Grand Ecayer* to pay his respects. The Prince landed by special invitation of the Governor to see the Fort of the Dardanelles, where lie the huge ancient cannon, throwing stone balls of 600 pounds weight, used with effect against Admiral Sir John Duckworth, commanding the *Royal George* and other men-of-war, when he forced the passage of the strait in 1807. The royal tourists also landed at Gallipoli to visit the burial ground of the British soldiers who died there at the beginning of the war in 1854. The *Ariadne* then, traversing the sea of Marmora, reached the "Golden Horn" entrance to the port at 9 a.m. on April 1. She was received there by the Sultan's yacht and ten steamers with British residents on board, and by salutes from the men-of-war. The Foreign Minister and the Sultan's Grand Chamberlain went aboard the British vessel, and accompanied the royal travellers, amid a crowd of caiques and other boats, to a point abreast of the Palace of Salih Bazaar. There the visitors were met by the Sultan's state caique with fourteen rowers in silk shirts, followed by three other great caiques bringing Arabi Pasha, Grand Vizier, and Khamil Bey, Grand Master of the Ceremonies. The royal party were received at the landing place by a gorgeous staff of Turkish officers, while the band of a regiment of guards played "God save the Queen". At the steps of the palace the Sultan (Abd-ul-Aziz), in full uniform, met his guests with a most cordial welcome, and conducted them to the very rich and comfortable saloons prepared. After a brief



rest, the Prince and his suite were driven to the Dolma Baghtche Palace, attended by high officials in full array of white turbans, scarlet jackets and vests, with gold lace, gold belts, scimitars, and blue trousers and tunics. At the palace, where they were received by troops drawn up, and with the music of a band, the Sultan met the Prince again, and escorted him to one of the state apartments, the Grand Vizier acting as interpreter. In the afternoon the Prince, Princess, and suite drove to the British Embassy, where they stayed until 6 p.m., and later on the Prince went privately to the opera. The Salih Bazaar Palace, where the Prince and Princess stayed, is at Tophane, on the north side of the Bosphorus, looking straight over to Scutari. The magnificent special fittings for the royal guests included the finest Gobelin carpets and Damascus silks. Every European luxury was provided, and due attention was paid, as regarded comfort for visitors from the Western world, to various points and arrangements. The usual latticework placed over the windows of Turkish dwellings, in order to screen fair inmates from the rude gaze of outsiders, was removed, and the windows were draped with superb silk hangings. A magnificent piano was placed in the grand saloon; the furniture was of Parisian make, and the table service of silver. All the attendants were Greeks and other Europeans, the coachman French, the steward an English subject. For the French-built carriages the Sultan had procured excellent horses and handsome harness from Britain.

On the two following days, April 2 and 3, the Prince and Princess received a deputation and address from the British residents in the capital and the diplomatic body, and visited the old seraglio (a former palace of the Sultan's), the chief mosques, and the seraskierat or war office. A banquet with the Sultan furnished a display of Oriental splendour at its height, including gold and silver plate set with gems. Every morning there came for the Prince and Princess presents of the choicest flowers, trays laden with fruits and sweets, and pipes with amber mouthpieces encrusted with rubies and dia-

monds. The state dinner at the Dolma Baghtche Palace was the first entertainment of the kind ever given to Christians by a Sultan of Turkey. On Sunday, April 4, the royal pair, after attending service at the British Embassy, and having lunched there, visited the British Cemetery at Scutari, containing the bodies of so many victims of the Crimean War. We may note that, at the Sultan's dinner on April 3, the British royal pair met the British Ambassador and his wife, the Russian Ambassador and Madame Ignatieff, and the Austrian and French Ambassadors. The dinner was a mingled menu of choice European and Turkish dishes. At the end of the feast the Sultan, regardless of the Prophet, proposed the health of the Princess in a brimming goblet of champagne, and then conducted her and the other ladies to the harem, where they spent over an hour. The Turkish sovereign meanwhile returned to the Prince's party, and joined them in a pipe and a cup of Mocha. The following day saw the Prince and the Princess engaged at the bazaars and other places of interest in Stamboul, the Turkish quarter of the great city. On April 6 there was a grand ball at the British Embassy, and this was assuredly the most brilliant entertainment of the kind ever witnessed in Pera, the European quarter. The Sultan was one of the guests, numbering over six hundred. He arrived at 10.30 p.m., and was met at the entrance by the Prince, Mr. Elliott, and their suites. The dancing opened with a quadrille, in which the Prince and Mrs. Elliott, and the Ambassador and the Princess of Wales, were partners. His Turkish Majesty looked on from his chair of state on a raised dais, where he had for a time the British royal guests, to right and left, as co-spectators of the gay throng. The Sultan left at midnight; the Prince and Princess so heartily enjoyed the ball that they remained until (5 a.m.) daylight gave the signal for withdrawal. There was no respite from amusement for the royal tourists. On the evening of April 7 they joined the Sultan in his state visit to the Opera, where Meyerbeer's *L'Africaine* was presented to a crowded and brilliant house. The following day was devoted to rides in the suburbs, and with

due regard to the great British game, the Prince and Princess attended a cricket match between the members of the Constantinople Club and the officers of the *Ariadne*, to whom victory in the land struggle was denied. On April 10, after luncheon with the Sultan, the royal party embarked on their man-of-war, and at 5.30 steamed along the Bosphorus, under a salute, on their way to the Crimea.

At the time of the Crimean War (1854-5) the Prince and Princess were too young to appreciate the full significance of the events which were drawing the attention of the world. They now viewed with great interest the ruined city of Sebastopol, with its fortresses. There they beheld desolate streets of dilapidated houses; the harmless heaps of earth and stone which had borne the terrible names of Malakoff, Redan, and Central Bastion; the vacant harbour and the shattered docks of stone; the breastworks of countless batteries; the labyrinth of siege entrenchments by which, during the siege of 346 days from September 27, 1854, to September 8, 1855, the British and French forces had drawn ever nearer to the destined points of assault. With mournful interest the Prince and Princess saw, in a room of the country house halfway between Balaclava and Sebastopol, the marble wall-tablet recording, in English and Russian, the death in that apartment, on June 28, 1855, of its first distinguished occupant, Lord Raglan, the British commander-in-chief. The house was also occupied as headquarters by his successors, General Simpson and General Codrington. The memorials of the British sojourn on the property of Colonel Braker, the Russian owner of this country house, had been carefully respected by him and his wife, and the room in which Lord Raglan died contained beautiful flowers and cypress trees in large pots around the tablet. In the garden of the villa a stone with an inscription marks the spot where Lord Raglan's heart was buried, his body having been embalmed and sent to England. The royal tourists saw, at Balaclava, with the wild, grand coast scenery stretching eastwards outside, the picturesque little haven, perfectly sheltered from all storms, a quiet spot, as



they viewed it, a snug retreat, which had once been crowded with warships and transports, while the shores around were thronged with men busy in the work of war. The old towers of the Genoese castle were there, giving an air of medieval times and baronial dignity to the spot. There were still some suggestive memorials of British occupation in huge mounds of broken bottles between Balaclava and Kadikoi. A long line of regular undulations on the ground told where the sleepers of the railway, from the harbour to the camp before the great fortress, had been laid; and the wooden piles of the quay remained, the surface-planks having been carried off as fuel by the Tartar people of the countryside. On the rocks could still be seen a curious remnant of the war time in names, such as "Castle Bay" and "Point Powell", painted to enable the captains of transports to know where to "berth" their vessels. Rocks and old walls were covered, in this springtime of the royal visit, with flowers, of which forget-me-not was the most abundant. The only other signs of life were a few seabirds overhead, a solitary fishing-boat coming in, a few small craft in the harbour, and fishing-nets spread on the shore. Near to Balaclava there was a large increase of cultivation since the siege, the valley running up from Kadikoi to the hill being an unbroken succession of vines and fields of grain, and in the middle of the plain where the famous heavy cavalry charge was made, there were numerous fields and farmhouses on ground previously untilled. A good hard road, so grievously needed by the British forces during the earlier part of the siege, now connected Balaclava and Sebastopol.

It was on April 13 that the Prince and Princess went through the streets of Sebastopol, under guidance of the Russian general, Kotzebue, Governor of the southern province. The ruinous condition of the place at this time has been already referred to. Two or three small trading ships lay in the harbour; a little work was going on in the yards of the Russian Steam Navigation Company, and about 5000 people, mostly of the poorer class, still lived in the less-dilapidated parts of the town.

In the most desolate quarters a few cows were grazing in the streets, or a sow wandered about with her little progeny in rear. The once stately Forts Nicholas and Paul were mere mounds of rubbish. The most striking object seen by the royal tourists was the colossal bronze statue, nearly 30 feet high, on a pedestal of black marble of the same altitude, to Admiral Lazareff, a monument erected since the war. This memorial stands on the broad esplanade in front of what the British, during the siege, knew as the "White Buildings", really the marine barracks, and overlooks the harbour and the town. It was the ability and energy of Lazareff which created Sebastopol and built the Russian Black Sea fleet. It was the purpose of the Crimean campaign to destroy what this man had spent his life in building and organizing. That purpose was accomplished, and it had a curious effect on the mind of the royal spectators to behold that great statue of the man in the very midst of the ruins. The barracks, dock-yards, and other establishments of his design were seen all around in the relics of their destruction. All the fleet too, by the act of its possessors, had gone to the bottom of the sea in the great harbour, and most of the sailors, to whom he was so dear, and they to him, had sunk, not beneath the waters, but into graves below the sod. A far-stretching background of tombs beyond the heights told of the death and devastation associated with the end of his contrivances, which those who gazed on his statue could not help recalling. The fall of Sebastopol would have been his death, for he would assuredly have died fighting along with his great work. This misfortune Lazareff was spared by death, in 1851, at Vienna. His body was brought to the scene of his labours and achievements, and was borne to the grave wholly by admirals. In the ground where he lies repose also the remains of three other admirals, killed during the siege — Korniloff, Istomine, Nachimoff—who all fell in the great Malakoff fort, and lie beside their old comrade. A very fine church with pillars and capitals all of the best Crimean marble and granite, in the Byzantine style, was being erected as a memorial of the four naval leaders at the time of the royal visit.

The monument on the battlefield of Inkerman has inscriptions in English and Russian dedicating it to the memory of the brave foemen on both sides, and stands where the thick of the tremendous conflict took place. When the Prince and Princess viewed the scenes, the low scrub, growing waist high, which was such a feature in the battle, and was all used up for fuel by the allied soldiers, was again reaching its former height. The spring leaves were in bud, flowers and butterflies were plentiful in the warm sunshine, and the whole scene, with morsels of knapsack straps and belts still scattered about, was a beautiful and touching specimen of "Peace and War". The Prince and Princess spent a pensive hour in the cemetery of British officers on Cathcart's Hill, named from Sir George Cathcart, a veteran of Waterloo. Early in 1852 he had succeeded Sir Harry Smith as Governor of Cape Colony, and, after fighting the Kaffirs with success, he was recalled to command a division of troops in the Crimean War. He fell, shot through the heart, at Inkerman, and was buried on the spot where he died. In the spring of 1856, while the allied armies were still in the Crimea, walls were put up round all the burial grounds. Dr. Russell, of *The Times*, who was in the company of the royal tourists, described the condition of the graves and monuments at that time. "The Princess ascended the steps of the cemetery, and, in company with her husband, walked slowly through the noiseless streets, reading the names inscribed on the stones, and stopping now and then to pick a flower or a weed from the side of a grave of one whose friends she knew. The Prince was doing the same, and often called her attention to some name which reminded him of those at home. There was probably not one of the whole party who had not a friend or relative lying there. It is plain enough that if steps be not taken to preserve this cemetery from decay, and from wanton dilapidation, it, in common with every British monument and memorial in the Crimea, will become a national disgrace." Dr. Russell then describes the damage done, and contrasts it with the condition of the Russian and French graveyards. There were over ninety English burial



places in all, scattered over an area of 80 square miles, some with one or two graves, others with hundreds. We shall see hereafter the effect produced on the mind of the Prince of Wales by his view of the ruinous condition of many parts of these depositories of the remains of British heroes.

On April 17 the royal party returned from the Crimea to Constantinople, and, after a visit of farewell to the Sultan, they started for Greece, reaching Athens three days later. They were received by the Princess's brother, the King of the Hellenes, and spent some time agreeably among classic scenes which need no description. The Prince, after leaving Athens for the Ionian Isles, had some sport in shooting wild boars in Albania. Dr. Russell furnishes a striking account of a painful incident which occurred at night, on May 1, on board the *Ariadne*, when she steamed away from Corfu. The Princess had gone below, but the Prince remained on the poop, watching the lights on the receding shore. It was a lovely night, and the sea, smooth as glass, shone very brilliantly. About three-quarters of an hour after leaving harbour, when the moon was clouded, and no sound was audible but the throbbing of the screw and the gurgle of the water astern, a "smack" was suddenly heard as of some flat substance fallen into the sea. The Prince exclaimed: "What is that?" and the thrilling cry, "A man overboard!" was the response, clear and strong, as the stamp of feet was heard on the deck. Overboard in an instant went a lifebuoy, which, unluckily, overturned as it reached water, and the light which it bore was put out. A second lifebuoy was let go, and this one floated astern with its fuse blazing in the vessel's wake. The Prince, at the taffrail, gazed anxiously into the dark waters, but not a sound came, not a speck was visible. The ship was soon stopped dead, and in half a minute her lifeboat was pulling fast towards the buoy. As all peered silently into the night, a voice exclaimed: "The light is bobbing! Thank God, he's saved!" Then silence again until ten minutes had passed. "Can you see the boat?" cried the skipper. "Yes, sir; here it comes; they have got the buoys." "Nothing else?" "I don't think so,

sir." ' Quartermaster, can't you see if there's anyone with the crew in the boat?" "I can't make out that there is, sir." The cloud passed off the moon, and the boat came on over the silvery sea, towing something astern. Eager eyes peered through the glasses, and everyone started as the captain shouted: "Have you got him?" A fearful moment of suspense, and back came the words: "He's lost, sir!" A low murmur ran along the deck—a feeling of sadness and awe passed over all, then from the port of a cabin astern a woman's gentle voice was heard: "Is he saved?"—then the abrupt answer once more: "He's lost, ma'am," came over the water. It turned out that a boy had been sent into the mizzen-shrouds to remove the lamps used for illumination at Corfu. By some mishap the boy fell overboard, striking his head against the chains, and, without a cry, he sank at once, being stunned, or was drawn away by the strong indraft of the screw at the place where he touched the water. "On ahead, full speed!" was the order, and for many hours a gloom of sorrow pervaded all hands aboard.

At 12.30 p.m. on May 2 the *Ariadne* cast anchor inside the old fort in the harbour of Brindisi, and the royal tourists were met by high officials of the King of Italy's Court, and soon left by special train for the north. At 6 a.m. on the following day the Prince and Princess were met at Bologna by the British minister, Sir Augustus Paget, who accompanied them to Turin, where the royal pair alighted and dined at the Hôtel de l'Europe. At 8.30 a.m. on May 4 the royal party left Turin by special train for Susa, where they changed carriages for the Mont Cenis ascending railway, viewing grand scenes of snow and glaciers, in vivid contrast with the sand and sun of Egypt. By way of Mâcon and Paris, where a stay was made, Marlborough House was reached at 6.30 p.m. on May 12. The long tour, which had afforded the utmost enjoyment to the royal pair, was thus completed.

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## CHAPTER XIV

## PRINCELY LABOURS

1869-1870

It was now the height of the "season" in London, and the Prince quickly found himself engaged in the usual series of duties, sometimes arduous in their incessant demands, often thoroughly congenial, always well discharged, for which he had proved himself to be admirably fitted by nature, training, and experience. As a country landowner he was at one time off to Sandringham inspecting the progress of the new house, the gardens, and other works on the estate. As representative of the Queen he held levees, presided at a state ball and a concert at Buckingham Palace, and attended Ascot races. As host at Marlborough House he received his brother-in-law the Crown Prince of Denmark, and his recent entertainer, Ismail Pasha. Coming to public functions, we find the Prince, on May 24, a guest at the Royal Institution of the very popular Royal Geographical Society at their anniversary meeting. The distinguished geologist, Sir Roderick Murchison, was president at the dinner, and the young Egyptian, Prince Hussan, was among those who were entertained. Sir Roderick naturally alluded to the recent travels of the Prince when he proposed his health as vice-patron, and also referred to the appointment of Sir Samuel Baker, the Society's medallist of the year, as Governor of Equatorial Africa under the Viceroy of Egypt. The appointment was largely due to the personal influence of the British heir apparent, on behalf of his recent fellow traveller, with Ismail Pasha. In his reply the royal guest expressed his great satisfaction in the fact that the Viceroy had "deeply at heart the great importance of that noble enterprise—to put down slavery on the White Nile", and in the possession by Sir Samuel Baker of the energy and perseverance which would, if it were possible, overcome the inherent difficulties of that enterprise. Among the interesting incidents of the evening



were the returning of thanks for "The Navy", by the famous Arctic explorer, Admiral Sir George Back, who had been with Sir John Franklin in three Polar expeditions, and was the discoverer, in 1834, of the Great Fish River (or Back's River), which he traced to the frozen ocean. The health of Professor Nordenskiöld, of Stockholm, who became afterwards so famous as an Arctic explorer, was also proposed, he being the recipient of "the Founder's" medal for his actual achievements in the northern regions. The Patron or Victoria medal for the year had been awarded to that admirable lady, Mrs. Somerville, then nearing ninety years of age, for her scientific researches, especially in astronomy, and for her works on physical geography. On this memorable occasion for the Society the guests included Professor Owen, the Duke of Sutherland, and Dr. Russell of *The Times*, whom we have lately seen as companions of the Prince in his travels, with Sir Harry Rawlinson, soldier and orientalist, renowned in Eastern diplomacy, and as an explorer of ancient ruins, and specially distinguished as the decipherer of Babylonian and Assyrian inscriptions in the cuneiform character.

On June 28 the Prince of Wales, with the Princess, was performing his frequent office of laying a first stone. The scene on this occasion was the Earlswood Asylum, a splendid building finely situated near Redhill in Surrey. There, through the exercise of kindness and skill, the hapless beings styled idiots and imbeciles have long been treated with such success as to improve the mental condition of a large majority, and to enable many to earn their own living by some trade or industry. The founder of this admirable institution was Dr. Andrew Reed, a man whose name, to the discredit of editors of encyclopædias, will be vainly looked for in those pretentious and voluminous works. Such is human justice to the memory of one of the greatest British philanthropists of the nineteenth century. Born in London in 1787, close to Temple Bar, by descent from yeomen folk in Dorsetshire, this man became the eminent, the unrivalled, benefactor of orphans, incurables, and

persons of weak minds. In 1811, after gaining learning in Hebrew, Greek, and mathematics by the exercise of energy and self-denial when his day's work as apprentice to a watchmaker was done, Reed became the minister of an Independent chapel at the east end of the metropolis. In this capacity he laboured for nearly half a century, and died, with every sign of love and veneration from friends and strangers, in 1862. From an early age this true lover of his fellow creatures had felt specially drawn towards children bereft of one or both parents. His mother was an orphan, and he had often seen female orphans in his apprentice days when he went to an asylum to regulate the due working of the clocks. He began by adopting an orphan family and placing them under a widow's care. He was obliged, however, to seek the pecuniary help of his flock, and, after many efforts, his appeal resulted in the foundation, in 1815, of the London Orphan Asylum. The benevolent author, with admirable tact and knowledge of his age in regard to religious prejudice, had secured the aid, as his associate in the honorary secretaryship, of a clergyman of the Established Church. Among the patrons of his enterprise he had the King (George the Fourth), his brothers the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, the Bank of England, the City of London, the Dock Companies, and the East India Company. Thus powerfully helped, Reed was enabled, in 1825, at a cost of £25,000, to open the Clapton Asylum, to the north of London, for orphans of both sexes. This noble institution, when the oncoming tide of bricks and mortar threatened its healthful isolation in the fields, was removed, in 1871, to Watford, in Hertfordshire. The benevolent man had already bethought him of an infant orphanage for children under seven years of age, and he again obtained the aid of royal personages. A letter dated March 20, 1828, in Reed's hand, contains these words: "The Duchess of Kent has been pleased to say that we shall have her help and that of her little orphan daughter Victoria, to a cause which, had he lived, her father would have espoused". Such was the origin of the Infant Orphan Asylum at Wanstead, in Essex, with its 600 inmates, and receipts reach-

ing nearly half a million sterling. In 1844 Reed founded the Asylum for Fatherless Children, regardless of sect, party, or religious tests, with its final home at Reedham, in Surrey. Then he turned his attention to the mentally defective, and in 1848 he founded, in a mansion on Highgate Hill, in the north of London, the nucleus of the asylum at Earlswood with which we are dealing. The first stone of this building was laid by the Prince Consort in 1853, and the building was opened by him two years later. We can well imagine with what hearty goodwill the Prince of Wales, on the occasion under notice, attended to lay the first stone of additional buildings. He and his wife were received by Sir Charles Reed, M.P., son of Dr. Andrew Reed, and the mallet used was the one which had been in the hands of the Prince Consort when he laid the first stone of the asylum at Wanstead, and which he had afterwards given to Dr. Reed. The usual proceedings ended in the receipt of 400 purses from ladies, a luncheon, and the planting of memorial trees. With his unfailing generosity on such occasions the Prince contributed 100 guineas to the funds. In a brief reply to the address, he referred with approval to "the comprehensive principle which regulates, without regard to social or religious distinction, the admission of all classes of our fellow creatures suffering under an affliction which reduces them to one common level".

A few days later we find the royal pair at the town which, in one of his speeches on the occasion, the Prince described as "his country town", King's Lynn. This place, the nearest port of England to Holland and North Germany, had been, in early Plantagenet times, the chief eastern port of the country next to London. After a long period of decay a time of revival came, and a new "Lynn Dock Company" completed a great dock, which was, on July 7 in the year under notice, inaugurated with the usual ceremonies by the Prince and Princess, the former personage, to the delight and surprise of the mass of spectators, commanding that the new work should be called "the Alexandra Dock". The royal party also visited the Grammar School, an institution founded by Queen Elizabeth, and there the Prince



presented to the successful competitor the gold medal annually given by himself as a prize alternately for classical and modern languages. On July 13 the Prince, accompanied again by his wife, laid the foundation stone of a new building for the London Orphan Asylum at Watford, which has been just referred to in connection with Dr. Andrew Reed. It is a notable fact that a former orphan in this institution had undertaken to build the chapel of the new edifice at a cost of £5000, while other former pupils had contributed nearly £4000 to the building funds. The Prince of Wales had a strong hereditary title to assist on this occasion, seeing that his grandfather, the Duke of Kent, was almost the first subscriber to the original asylum at Clapton; that the Duke of York, his granduncle, laid the first stone of that building, and the Duke of Cambridge, another son of George the Third, had presided at the opening of the Clapton institution. The new building at Watford stands on a site close to a railway station, and near to Cassiobury Park, the seat of the Earl of Essex. It was erected in detached blocks or pavilions, and intended to accommodate 200 girls and 600 boys.

On July 19 the Prince and Princess were the guests of the Earl of Ellesmere at his noble mansion Worsley Hall, near Patricroft, on the banks of the Bridgewater Canal, about 6 miles west of Manchester, a seat visited in 1851 by the Queen and Prince Albert. In visiting the show of the Royal Agricultural Society at Old Trafford, on July 20, the royal pair embarked at the "royal" landing stage at Worsley, formerly used by the Queen, and were conducted for some miles, as part of an aquatic procession, to the site of the show. The scene was picturesque. Three eight-oar boats of the Manchester Rowing Club led the way, and seven others followed as a guard of honour. Each boat carried its own flag astern, and every flannelled oarsman wore smart ribbons on his breast. The banks of the canal were crowded with people, and banners flew at many points, while the air vibrated to the music of bands and the clangour of church bells. The barges were towed by horses ridden by postilions, and mounted patrols in livery kept the towing path clear. The

Prince and Princess drove through the Peel Park at Manchester, passing the white marble statues of the Queen, the Prince Consort, Richard Cobden, and of a local worthy, Joseph Brotherton. The reception of the royal pair, and the addresses presented, were most loyal. The Prince, as President of the Royal Agricultural Society, took the chair at a general meeting of the Council, and then the royal visitors went off by special train for Brantinghamthorpe, the seat of Mr. Christopher Sykes, M.P., who was for many years one of the Prince's most intimate and cherished friends. On July 22 the Prince opened at Hull the new Albert Dock, then one of the largest in England, being 3300 feet long and from 180 to 430 feet in width. The engineer was Mr. (afterwards Sir John) Hawkshaw, and the cost of the great commercial work was a million sterling. The Princess of Wales was much interested on this occasion from the extensive intercourse carried on between the Yorkshire port and her native country. The Prince declared the dock open, from the deck of H.M.S. *Vivid*, and was afterwards entertained at a luncheon where the guests included his friends the Dukes of Sutherland and St. Albans, the latter of whom had been with the Prince at Trinity College, Cambridge. The Princess, before she left, had some conversation with the Danish Lutheran minister at Hull.

On the very next day, the heir to the throne was engaged in the City of London in honouring philanthropy as represented by a man justly famous, one held in lasting esteem by the citizens of two of the greatest nations—Great Britain and the United States. The career, like the character, of George Peabody was indeed remarkable. Born at South Danvers (now Peabody), in Massachusetts, in 1795, he was descended from an old yeoman family of Hertfordshire, who, six generations prior to his birth, had emigrated to New England. He had no regular education save at the district school, and, at eleven years of age, he was an apprentice in a grocery store. His upward steps may be briefly given as those of a shopkeeper in dry goods, a volunteer in the war against his ancestors' country in 1812-4, a "bagman" as partner in an ever-growing business, and, about 1830, the head

of one of the largest mercantile concerns in the world. In the year of Queen Victoria's accession he set up as a merchant and money broker in the city of London, and six years later (1843), resigning his business concerns in America, he became fully a British subject under the best of sovereigns. A prince among merchants in wealth and influence, he was a very king in the benevolence which he exercised on behalf both of his native and adopted countries. As wise as he was nobly generous, Peabody gave, amongst benefactions far exceeding our space even to name, £25,000 for educational purposes at his native town; £200,000 for the endowment of science at Baltimore; various sums to Harvard University; and half a million sterling for the erection of dwelling houses (the "Peabody Buildings", to be seen in various parts of the metropolis) for the working classes in London. After declining the offer of a baronetcy from the Queen, and receiving, in 1867, a special vote of thanks from the United States Congress for his gifts to public institutions in his native land, this eminent lover of mankind died, in November, 1869, at Eaton Square, London.

He was still living when the leading men of the metropolis subscribed for the statue, on the east of the Royal Exchange, which the Prince most gladly consented to unveil. At the Mansion House luncheon which preceded the ceremony, the many distinguished guests fitly included a great British philanthropist, Miss (afterwards Baroness) Burdett-Coutts. At the site of the memorial statue an eloquent address to the Prince was delivered by Sir Benjamin S. Phillips, ex-Lord Mayor, Chairman of the Committee. The speaker was one who, during his term of office (1865-6), was distinguished by his oratorical ability, and his concluding words are well worthy of quotation here: "Let us hope that this statue, erected by the sons of free England to the honour of one of Columbia's truest and noblest citizens, may be symbolical of the peace and goodwill that exist between the two countries, and that peoples springing from the same stock, speaking the same language, and inspired and animated by the same love of freedom and progress, may live in uninterrupted friendship and



happiness. Your Royal Highness may remember the language so beautifully expressed by George Peabody, in the letter that accompanied his last noble gift, when he writes of America: 'I will pray that Almighty God will give to it a future as happy and noble in the intelligence and virtue of its citizens as it will be glorious in unexampled power and prosperity'. Your Royal Highness, these are the sentiments uttered by a man of ripe age, and alike applicable to the land of his birth and to the country of his adoption. May they inspire us, may they animate us, and may they find an echo throughout the length and breadth of our own free and happy homes." The Prince, in his reply, expressed the great pleasure which he felt in assisting on such an occasion, and his deep gratification in joining "to pay a mark of tribute and respect to the name of that great American citizen and philanthropist—I may say, that citizen of the world". We may here note that the statue was from the chisel of Mr. Story, who had been chosen as the sculptor in order to show regard for the United States in reference to one of her citizens who was also distinguished as a poet. The Prince then thanked Mr. Motley (American Minister at the British Court and the admirable historian of *The Rise of the Dutch Republic* and *The United Netherlands*) for his presence, and concluded by saying: "Be assured that the feelings which I personally entertain towards America are the same as they ever were. I can never forget the reception which I had there nine years ago, and my earnest wish and hope is that England and America may go hand in hand in peace and prosperity." The statue was then uncovered amidst loud cheers. Mr. Motley then addressed the vast audience, and said of Peabody: "Most fortunate as well as most generous of men, he has discovered a secret for which misers might sigh in vain—the art of keeping a great fortune for himself through all times. For I have often thought in this connection of a famous epitaph: 'What I spent I had; what I gave I have; what I kept I lost'. And what a magnificent treasure, according to these noble and touching words, has our friend and the poor man's friend preserved for himself till time shall be no more. Of all men in

the world he least needs a monument." In speaking of the statue, Mr. Motley passed it as a faithful likeness, having seen it in the sculptor's studio at Rome, and once viewed it with Peabody seated beside it. He then said: "It is a delightful thought that the tens of thousands who daily throng this crowded mart will see him almost as accurately as if in the flesh, and that generations after generations—that long, yet unborn, but, I fear, never-ending procession of London's poor—will be almost as familiar in the future with the form and features of their great benefactor as are those of us who have enjoyed his acquaintance and friendship in life". Mr. Story, being called on, said: "I have no speech to make," and pointing to the statue, "That is my speech!" a remark followed by deserved laughter and cheers. We may state that Mr. Peabody was at this time abroad, and that Queen Victoria, on his leaving England, had written him an autograph letter expressing her regret that his sudden departure had made it impossible for her to see him. She regretted to hear that he had gone away in bad health, and hoped for his return in complete recovery, that she might then see and thank him personally for all he had done for the people. Mr. Arthur Helps, Clerk to the Privy Council, in sending this note, added that the Queen commanded him "to be sure and charge Mr. Peabody to report himself on his return to England".

A period of repose from public duties came for the royal pair early in August, when they, travelling as "Lord and Lady Renfrew", and accompanied by their children, went to visit Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse near Darmstadt, and then proceeded to Wildbad, in the Black Forest, a small town in the north-west of Würtemberg, picturesquely placed in the romantic pine-clad gorge of the River Enz. The warm baths consist of numerous basins formed around the springs as they gush from the rocks, and, with a temperature of about 95 degrees, are chiefly saline, very beneficial for rheumatism, gout, and cognate ailments, and, internally used, for dyspepsia and kidney disease. Here the Princess took a course of baths, and the Prince visited his great-aunt, the Duchess of Cambridge, at

Rumpenheim. Later in the month the Prince was at Abergeldie for sport with the grouse and deer, also attending the "Highland gathering" at Braemar, and visiting the Earl and Countess of Fife at Mar Lodge. He then, staying two days in Paris on the way, rejoined the Princess and children at Wildbad. The end of September saw the family back at Marlborough House, whence the head flitted again to Abergeldie for more sport on the moors. In the middle of October he was at Chester, inaugurating a new Town Hall. The "Earl of Chester", received by Earl Grosvenor (afterwards Duke of Westminster), Mr. Gladstone (Prime Minister), and the city corporation, was joyfully acclaimed by the people of the ancient place, which was illuminated at night. There was a really magnificent triumphal arch, 80 feet in height and 60 feet wide, with a pinnacled roof and four turrets, and elaborate heraldic adornments. After a grand procession to the new edifice, and a luncheon, the Prince was escorted to the famous racecourse, the "Roodee", where he witnessed athletic sports, and, in comic contrast to the contests at Epsom and Newmarket, races between ponies and donkeys.

November found the Prince shooting near Scarborough, as the guest of Lord and Lady Londesborough, and enjoying the same sport at Windsor and other places, including Six-Mile Bottom, near Newmarket. On November 26 came the birth of the fifth child, and third daughter, the Princess Maud Charlotte Mary Victoria. The Princess of Wales made a speedy recovery, and the year closed with the entertainment of guests for sport by the Prince at Sandringham, and the establishment of the family for the winter at Lord Suffield's house, Gunton Park, during the unfinished state of the new Sandringham House. We must here, however, go back for a month to record the attendance of the Prince on a notable occasion in London. The Scot is honourably distinguished by what has been called the "clannish spirit", meaning, on its best side, a strong affection, not only for near "kith and kin", but for his fellow countrymen in general. It is well known that the British Metropolis attracts many people from the regions north of the Tweed, and it is a fact that among



these emigrants many attain remarkable success in life through the exercise of native shrewdness and energy in finance, journalism, and other avocations. The poor, however, are always with us, and many poor "Scotties" are found in London. In their behalf, the "Scottish Hospital" was founded in the reign of the monarch who added the English throne to the Scottish which he had long held. Charles the Second, in 1665 and 1676, bestowed charters, and an extension of powers, under a new document, was granted in 1715. The charity of the institution is accorded to poor natives of Scotland and their children, resident in and very near London, in the form of pensions, and free passages are provided for those who desire to return to Scotland. Aid is also given for the education of Scottish children attached to churches of the national religion in London and Westminster. A special bequest affords pensions for Scottish soldiers and sailors, resident in the United Kingdom, who have been wounded or have lost their sight in service, and have an income not exceeding £20 per annum. St. Andrew's Day, November 30, is a great day for London Scotsmen, as bringing the anniversary festival of the Royal Scottish Corporation. The Prince of Wales had a very marked hereditary fitness in presiding at the dinner in 1869. The Queen had been for many years patroness of the charity, and had contributed some thousands of pounds to the funds. On twenty different anniversaries the late King William the Fourth had, as Duke of Clarence, presided, and his brothers, the Dukes of Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, had taken the chair on various like occasions, and had largely supported the good cause by their subscriptions.

The scene on the occasion when the Prince of Wales took the chair was remarkable. The guests at the Festival are mainly Scottish, and the royal president was supported by a large number of Highland chiefs, Lowland lairds, and prosperous Scots resident in London. Prince Christian and other persons of distinction were also there. A thoroughly national spectacle was presented by the Highland dress of many of the stewards, with the display of their tartans and scarves, and the flags

and other decorations of the hall of the Freemasons' Tavern. The Prince was conducted to his seat to the tune of "Highland Laddie", played by the Queen's piper, his own first piper, and the performer of the kindred institution, the Royal Caledonian Asylum. The music performed during dinner was wholly national, from the band of the London Scottish Volunteers, while the three pipers, at intervals, marched round the tables, and made the room ring with their stirring strains. A Scottish vocalist, Mr. Maclagan, gave "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled". The Prince, in his speech, recounted the facts above given concerning the charity, and proposed the health of the Duke of Roxburghe, who had been president for four successive years. The Duke, in reply, alluded to the warm welcome they had all given to the "Duke of Rothesay", and proposed his health, which was drunk with Highland honours. The Prince, as usual, contributed 100 guineas to the funds, and like sums from the Queen, and from the Highland Society of London, with the amount of 300 guineas from the Caledonian Society of London, raised the subscriptions to about £2500, a sum far beyond precedent at any anniversary of the Scottish Hospital.

During January, 1870, the Prince, after recovering from an attack of influenza, visited Lord Fitzhardinge, for shooting, at Berkeley Castle, a mansion already described, and afterwards rejoined the Princess and the children at Gunton Park, where there was more shooting, varied by skating on the lake. In the following month a stay was made at Marlborough House, with the giving and receiving of evening entertainments and visits to the theatres, and at the end of the month the Prince went off to the country house, Burghersh Chantrey, in Lincolnshire, of his friend Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P., a noted supporter of the turf, and joined him in the sport of fox-hunting. On return to town, the Prince held a levee, and the Princess presided at "a drawing-room", and there was stag-hunting at Windsor and elsewhere. In the middle of March, the royal sportsman was the guest of the Duke and Duchess of Manchester at Kimbolton Castle in Huntingdonshire, whence he attended the Grand

National Hunt and Steeplechase meeting at Cottenham, near Cambridge, and hunted with Mr. Fitzwilliam's hounds at Lilford, in Northants. The seat at Kimbolton, named from the Kym, a tributary of the poet Cowper's placid and tortuous Ouse, lies about 11 miles south-west of Huntingdon, and, having been rebuilt by the first duke about the end of the seventeenth century, is a substantial square stone building with embattled parapet and central courtyard, standing on level ground in a spacious well-wooded park stocked with deer. The Prince's host, seventh duke, was descended from Sir Edward Montagu, a Lord Chief Justice under Henry the Eighth, with an ancestry going back for nearly five centuries to Drogo de Montagu, one of the Conqueror's train of followers, named from a town in Normandy. Sir Henry Montagu, Lord Chief Justice under James the First, was created Baron Montagu and Viscount Mandeville in 1620, and, in 1626, Earl of Manchester. His son, made Baron Kimbolton in his father's lifetime, was, as Earl of Manchester, commander of the Parliamentary army in the Civil War, gaining the great victory of Marston Moor, in conjunction with Cromwell, over Prince Rupert. The fourth earl, who supported the cause of the Prince of Orange against James the Second, became a distinguished diplomatist and was created Duke of Manchester by George the First. The hostess of the Prince on this occasion, a noted lady in society for many years both as Duchess of Manchester and of Devonshire, was a famous German beauty, the Baroness Louise Fredericke Auguste, daughter of Count von Alten.

On March 30 the Prince came forward once more in the cause of beneficence as president, at Freemasons' Hall, at the seventy-second anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The scene at the banquet was brilliant, a crowd of ladies in the galleries looking down on over six hundred guests in the costume of the "craft", including Earl de Grey and Ripon ("Grand Master" elect), the Duke of Manchester, and the Marquis of Hartington, afterwards Duke of Devonshire. We shall see hereafter that the Prince had recently become a "Free-



mason". In reply to the toast of his health, he referred to the fact of several of his granduncles having been long connected with the "brethren" and repudiated the charge often brought against them, as a "secret society", of being disloyal or irreligious, asserting that "Her Majesty has no more loyal subjects than are the Freemasons of England". He also declared that Freemasonry was "devoid of politics, its only object being the pure and Christian one of charity". During April, which was passed at Marlborough House, with the usual festivities of the season at home and abroad, the Prince witnessed the University Boat Race from Putney to Mortlake, as a spectator on the Umpire's boat, and saw the Cambridge crew as winners after nine consecutive defeats. On April 4 he showed his interest in exhibitions and education by taking the chair, at the rooms of the Society of Arts, in connection with the "Educational Section" of a series of proposed International Exhibitions. He had been recently appointed President of the Royal Commission of 1851, in succession to the deceased Earl of Derby, thrice Premier. The subject of education was, as the Prince said, "the great question of the day". The Oxford and Cambridge Local Middle-class Examinations, established in 1858, were in full vigour. The Endowed Schools Act, the most important of a series of statutes, had been passed in the previous session of Parliament; the Public Schools Act of 1868 had dealt with Eton and six other great educational foundations in the way of improvement; the famous Elementary Education Bill of 1870 was coming before the Commons in charge of Mr. W. E. Forster. A few days previous to this meeting, the Prince and Princess had visited the City of London Middle-class Schools, and he now urged on the committee the importance of preparing for the best possible representation, in 1871, of the various materials and apparatus used in teaching, and of the results of the many systems of instruction at work in this and other countries. At this time the Prince was with the Queen at Osborne, and at Sandringham he inspected the works of his new house, shot wild fowl in Wolferton marshes, and played in a cricket match

in which he and the gentlemen of his household were beaten by the servants.

In May came, during the stay in London, the usual course of races at Newmarket, concerts, theatres, the opera, a Queen's drawing-room, a state concert at Buckingham Palace, visits to picture galleries, dinner parties, the "Derby", and in this year a visit from the King and Queen of the Belgians. The Prince presided at such varied functions as a dinner at Willis's Rooms in aid of the funds of the Hospital for Sick Children, and at the annual banquet of his own regiment, the 10th Hussars. The Royal Academy dinner of this year (1870), attended by the Prince, presented some features of great interest. The president, Sir Francis Grant, referring to the opening of the new galleries at Burlington House, Piccadilly, where the banquet was being held, mentioned the state visit of the Queen in the previous year, and her presentation to the Academy of the beautiful marble bust of herself executed by the Princess Louise. Mr. Motley, the American minister, was among the eminent men who responded to toasts; but the chief incident, to which, in a very brief space of time, a melancholy significance was attached, was the admirable speech of Charles Dickens, one of the best "after-dinner" rhetoricians of his own or any time. The great novelist used terms of high eloquence in reference to the recent death of Mr. Daniel Maclise, R.A., a native of Cork, famous as an illustrative painter, and as the author of some of the great frescoes on the walls of Westminster Palace (Houses of Parliament), including the "Meeting of Wellington and Blücher after Waterloo" and the "Death of Nelson". This distinguished artist, who, in 1865, declined the Presidency of the Academy, had passed away only five days before the banquet was held. His illustrious friend and eulogist, within a few weeks of his speech at the dinner, was laid to rest in Westminster Abbey.

On May 16 the Prince presided, at St. James's Hall, at the twenty-fifth anniversary festival of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, granting relief in annuities to actors and actresses, singers and dancers, and to the widows and orphans of members. The

institution is largely supported by theatrical performers, and it need not be said that the royal chairman was a warm supporter of such an enterprise, and found himself surrounded by many distinguished dramatic persons. In the course of his remarks he alluded to his delight since childhood in "going to the play", and in proposing "Prosperity to the Fund" he named a guest present—"one of their oldest and ablest actors. He had known Mr. Buckstone personally ever since his childhood, and had repeatedly laughed and roared at his drollery and humour." For the present generation, to whom John Baldwin Buckstone is only a name, we may remark that this famous actor and dramatic writer was, before Queen Victoria's accession, leading comedian at the Adelphi Theatre, and lessee and manager of "the little theatre in the Haymarket" (so called in contrast with the great opera house, "Her Majesty's Theatre", burned down in 1867) from 1853 till 1878. His performances were marked by extreme comicality without any tinge of the vulgar, and by an artistic appreciation of the peculiar traits in each part which he assumed. In his reply on the occasion under notice, a very amusing and characteristic speech, combining drollery and sound sense, Buckstone referred to his having often seen the Prince, with his brothers and sisters, seated at the feet of their father and mother at Windsor Castle, and witnessing with delight dramatic representations there given. One passage of the speech deserves quotation from its illustration of the sort of life led by the royal chairman in London. "The members of our fund cannot be too grateful for the kindness and goodness of heart which have induced His Royal Highness to come here to-night, as the calls upon his time have now become so many, and the duties he has to perform so numerous and fatiguing, that we can only wonder how he gets through them all. Even within these few days he has held a levee; on Saturday last he patronized a performance at Drury Lane in aid of the Dramatic College; then he had to run away to Freemasons' Hall to be present at the installation of the Grand Master; and now we find him in the chair this evening; so what with conversaziones, laying



foundation stones, opening schools, and other calls upon his little leisure, I think he may be looked upon as one of the hardest-working men in Her Majesty's dominions. Still, it is this ready kindness which endears him to the nation, as the Princess, by her charming qualities, is so firmly fixed in the heart of every Englishman and Englishwoman." The Prince contributed £100 to the funds. Ten days later both he and the Princess showed their concern for the sick by attendance at a public meeting held at the Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover Square, in aid of the funds of St. George's Hospital, with especial regard to opening the wards of the new wing. The Prince, in his speech, referred with something like scorn to the fact that a hospital lying within the precincts of Kensington, Mayfair, and Belgravia, ever growing in population and wealth, should be compelled to keep forty-eight beds in the new wing closed; and that, in 1869, with an expenditure of £20,000, the governors had to spend £5000 out of capital. The speaker backed his appeal by a cheque for 200 guineas, and his wife gave 50 guineas more. The Marquis (afterwards Duke) of Westminster, in moving a vote of thanks to the royal chairman, related an experience at Milan, where, in inspecting a hospital with nearly 3000 beds, he saw in various rooms portraits of benefactors—some full length, others three-quarters, some half length, and others only heads. The reason for this distinction in size proved to be the difference in amount of the sums bestowed. The Prince turned this anecdote to humorous account by begging his hearers to "contribute very largely that circular golden portrait, representative of the Queen, which this hospital so much needs".

June brought with it the semi-state visit to Ascot Races, the spectacle of a sailing match at Tilbury of vessels of the Royal Thames Yacht Squadron, and some other matters more worthy of detailed record. On June 21 the Prince and Princess went to open the new buildings of the first-grade school called "Dulwich College", on the southern border of London. We are now at once taken back to the days of Queen Elizabeth. Edward Alleyn, born in the parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate,



A SEMI-STATE VISIT TO ASCOT RACES

From a Drawing by W. R. S. Stott





in the City of London, in 1566, was the foremost English actor of his day, a man of stately figure and face, one in many respects "born for the stage". The warm praise of Ben Jonson puts Alleyn's excellence beyond dispute. Deriving wealth from his professional earnings, from his marriage with an heiress, and from inheritance of paternal house property in Bishopsgate, he purchased, in 1605, the Manor of Dulwich, and afterwards some adjacent property, over 1300 acres in all. A childless man, he made a noble use of his means, and founded and endowed, in 1619, under letters patent from James the First, the "College of God's Gift", as he quaintly and piously called it. The building was opened with great ceremony in presence of Inigo Jones, Lord Chancellor Bacon, and other distinguished persons. A series of regulations signed shortly before Alleyn's death in 1626 ordained that the school should be for the instruction of eighty boys in three distinct classes, namely, twelve "poor scholars" to be drawn in equal numbers from the four London parishes out of which the founder drew his wealth; children of inhabitants of Dulwich, to be taught free; and "town or foreign scholars", to pay such fees as the master and wardens should appoint. The intention of Alleyn was to establish a great public school like those of Westminster and St. Paul's, but his purpose was, for more than two centuries, frustrated. His grand scheme was at once annulled, and the educational benefits of the college were confined to the twelve poor scholars. The value of the property had enormously increased, and Dulwich College had long been spoken of as a scandalous instance of "the abuse of an ancient charity", when, in 1857, an Act of Parliament made an end of the old corrupt corporation and management. An Act of 1858 created a new foundation, under proper supervision by 19 governors, 11 nominated by the Court of Chancery and 8 elected by the ratepayers of the four London parishes above referred to — St. Giles, Camberwell; St. Botolph "without Bishopsgate"; St. Luke's, Finsbury; and St. Saviour's, Southwark. The new school flourished under the Rev. Dr. Carver, an able Cambridge scholar, as head; and became, as it remains,

one of the leading public schools, with an endowment soon reaching £20,000 a year, and pupils approaching 800 in number. The new buildings opened by the Prince form a splendid pile, designed by Sir Charles Barry, in the Northern Italian style of the thirteenth century, erected at the cost of £100,000. The royal visitor distributed the prizes, after the usual speeches and recitations of pupils on such anniversaries, and then came a luncheon, presided over by the Rev. William Rogers, Chairman of the Board of Governors, and Rector of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. This gentleman, an admirable specimen of the "Broad Church", of the school of Dean Stanley of Westminster, with the mind of a statesman rather than of a theologian, would be, beyond doubt, a man after the Prince of Wales's own heart. He proposed the health of the Prince and Princess, and the former, returning thanks, proposed Dr. Carver, and complimented him on the success of the school.

On June 23, the Prince, ever alive to all matters of interest and importance to his fellow subjects, attended a "telegraphic soirée" of a novel character, given by Mr. Pender, chairman of the British-Indian Submarine Telegraph Company, at his house in Arlington Street, Piccadilly. The gathering was one of guests to celebrate the laying of the last section, from Gibraltar to Cornwall, of the cable supplying direct and independent communication between this country and Bombay, via the Bay of Biscay, the Mediterranean, the Red Sea, and the Indian Ocean. Among the eminent men and experts present were Sir William Cook, the telegraphist, and M. de Lesseps. One corner of the saloon was fitted up as a telegraph office, placed, by wires, in connection with different parts of the world. The Viceroy of India (Earl of Mayo) being at Simla, six hours earlier in time than London, sent a message to the President of the United States (General Grant) at Washington, 8443 miles away, in forty minutes, almost realizing the fantastic prediction of Puck in *A Midsummer-Night's Dream*: "I'll put a girdle round the earth in forty minutes". The message expressed a hope for "lasting union between the Eastern and Western hemispheres",

and the American President sent a reply congratulating India on her successful connection with "the balance of the world", or the rest of mankind. The Prince of Wales sent dispatches to, and received replies from, the Viceroy of Egypt, and Alexandria, and the King of Portugal, and also corresponded with President Grant, who would receive the message in a sense in about five hours less than no time, owing to differences of longitude and time. At Simla, Lord Mayo had been aroused in his bedroom (at 5 o'clock on *Friday* morning, whereas the London assemblage was spending the previous Thursday evening) by a wifely communication from the Countess, who was one of Mr. Pender's guests. The message took nine minutes in transmission from Piccadilly to the Himalayas. Lord Mayo, at 5.10 a.m. (by his time) wired: "Thankful for your message. I send you affectionate greeting from your two boys and all here." The Viceroy also received from the Prince a few words of congratulation on a telegraphic achievement destined to be of great service to the Empire. Other interesting messages were sent to various personages. On this occasion there was exhibited, for the first time in Britain, Sir William Thomson's (afterwards Lord Kelvin) wonderful siphon-recording instrument, which writes down in ordinary ink every fluctuation of the electric current received at the end of a submarine cable.

After science came beneficence in another form. On June 30 the Prince and his wife were both engaged at the East End, on the ceremony of opening new schools for the children of seamen in the Port of London. The handsome Gothic building, erected to accommodate 600 young people, with a covered playground, is in Wellclose Square near the London Docks. The Lord Mayor, the Bishop of London (Dr. Jackson), and other officials were present. On this occasion, as on so many others, the Prince had the pleasure of aiding a good work which had its origin in his father's wise benevolence. The Princess found interest in the fact that for two hundred years a church for Danish seamen had stood in Wellclose Square, and that the site of the new school buildings had been purchased from the Crown of



Denmark with money granted from the Bishop of London's Fund. The presentation of purses, and other contributions, supplied funds to the amount of £1500, including 100 guineas from the Prince. In replying to the toast of the health of the Prince and Princess, the former referred to the fact that in 1846 the foundation stone of the neighbouring church for seamen had been laid by his father. The first day of July found the royal pair at Reading, a town anciently famous for one of the greatest Benedictine abbeys in England. Henry the First was buried within the precincts of its Norman chapel, and John of Gaunt was married there to Blanche of Lancaster. In modern times, the place is of world-wide renown for biscuits and seeds. The visit of the Prince was in connection with the educational progress in which he was so strongly interested. The free Grammar School had given education to Archbishop Laud, who conferred large benefactions upon it. A new building had become necessary, and the Prince now, with imposing ceremony, and the full honours of "Masonry", laid the first stone, spreading corn thereon, and pouring out wine and oil, with the usual quaint and impressive prayers and responses, the words "So mote it be" being uttered by the Masons present in costume. In the speech made at the luncheon in the Town Hall, the Prince referred to the fact of the school having been founded by "his ancestor Henry the Seventh", and received a Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth. Before leaving, the royal stonemason handed to the Mayor a cheque for 100 guineas towards the building fund.

On July 7 the Princess, with her three elder children, left town for Copenhagen, on a visit to her parents. She was accompanied to Calais by her husband, and at Lübeck, which she reached via Brussels, she was met by her father and conducted to the Danish capital, whence the royal party proceeded to Fredensborg Castle. Prior to leaving London for Calais, the Prince performed, at a meeting of the Council of the Society of Arts, a pleasant duty in his capacity as President, in presenting the Albert Gold Medal to M. de Lesseps. This medal is be-

stowed on personages who have rendered public services to arts, commerce, or manufactures, and it is obvious that there could have been no more worthy recipient than the engineer of the Suez Canal. The royal chairman, in his French speech, expressed his appreciation of M. de Lesseps' achievement in terms of high eulogy, and referred to his having "enjoyed the inestimable advantage of an inspection of the Canal under his guidance". The distinguished Frenchman, in his reply, mentioned his personal interviews with the donor of the medal, Prince Albert, on the project of the Canal, and the deep and intelligent interest which he had taken in the enterprise. He also expressed his profound admiration for the personal qualities of the Prince of Wales, as made known during their acquaintance in the desert. We may observe that the Prince always took a peculiar pleasure in giving the Albert Medal to recipients with his own hands, among the persons thus honoured being M. Michel Chevalier, the French economist; Sir Henry Bessemer; and Sir Henry Doulton, the proprietor of the famous Lambeth art-pottery works. With his usual tact and discriminating kindness the Prince, on this last occasion, went to Lambeth in order that Sir Henry Doulton might have the medal presented on his own ground before his workpeople.

The London labours of the indefatigable man were not yet over. That grand metropolitan improvement, the Thames (Victoria) Embankment, was completed, and called for a state opening. The plan of forming a river wall on the northern bank of the Thames in London had been suggested two centuries earlier by Sir Christopher Wren, who, after the "Great Fire" of 1666, proposed a "commodious quay on the whole bank of the river from the Tower to Blackfriars". His friend, John Evelyn, the author of the invaluable *Diary*, had also a scheme for "filling up the shore of the river to low-water mark in a straight line from the Tower to the Temple" and forming "an ample quay". "Vested interests", which have so often marred well-devised plans, and the neglect of Parliament in the earlier decades of the nineteenth century, baffled all proposals until the

days of the energetic Lord Palmerston as Premier, who carried through both Houses the Act for the "scheme which permitted the creation of one of the most magnificent riverside roadways in the world". The Victoria Embankment was begun in February, 1864. About a mile and a quarter in length, beautiful in design, solid in construction, durable in material, it is throughout 100 feet in width, of which the carriage-way occupies 64, the inner footway 16, and that on the riverside 20 feet, with trees on each side planted 20 feet apart. The moulded granite parapet overlooking the tidal water is 3 feet 6 inches in height. The river wall is of marvellous solidity, size, and strength, carried down to over 32 feet below "Trinity" high-water mark, and 14 below low water; founded on concrete of Portland cement, built throughout of brick, and faced with the fine granitic rock obtained from quarries in the islet of Herm, midway between Guernsey and beautiful Sark. The splendid buildings which line this famous promenade are too well known to need description. The whole work cost over three millions sterling, mainly furnished by the coal and wine duties levied by the City Corporation. This embankment reclaimed from the old muddy foreshore about 37 acres of ground, of which 19 are occupied by the carriage road and footways,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  were given up to adjacent proprietors, and 8 formed into public gardens. The plans were due to Sir Joseph William Bazalgette, already seen in this record as chief engineer of the Metropolitan drainage system. Such was the work that, on behalf of the Queen, the Prince of Wales, on July 13, 1870, accompanied by his sister the Princess Louise, and attended by the Great Officers of the Household, inaugurated for public use. A procession of five royal carriages, escorted by Horse Guards, went from Marlborough House by way of the Mall, Whitehall, and Parliament Street to Westminster Bridge, where it was met by carriages containing Sir John Thwaites (Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works) and his colleagues. The Prince, in military uniform, was attended by the Home Secretary, Mr. Bruce (afterwards Lord Aberdare). The whole cortège traversed the Embankment to Blackfriars Bridge, and back to Westminster





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THE VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, LONDON



Bridge, where the Prince, amidst loud cheers from a vast concourse, and a royal salute of guns, declared the Embankment to be open. In reply to an address from Sir John Thwaites, he expressed his great regret that the Queen was not able, according to her original intention, to be present, adding that, "in no public work of this vast capital have the liberal and enterprising spirit of the citizens and the genius and resources of our civil engineers been more signally displayed", and concluding with the words: "I am commanded by the Queen to congratulate you cordially on the issue of your labours in undertakings which promise to be so enduring and so beneficent".

The Prince and Princess, within a short time of the conclusion of the London season, became painfully interested in events of the greatest magnitude on the continent of Europe, which drew the earnest attention of the whole civilized world. Both the royal personages must have felt distraction of feeling to a sore extent as the contest proceeded. In the Franco-German War, the Princess of Wales could not but regard with intense dislike one of the prime movers, on the political side, in the person of Count Bismarck. That colossal figure in the ranks of modern statesmen had, a few years previously, so treated her native country that she is credited with the desire, expressed through a royal child at a family gathering, to see "his head in a charger". On the other hand, wifely affection bade her remember that two of her husband's sisters and brothers-in-law were—the ladies in charitable work and prayer, the men in warfare—actively engaged on the German side. The Prince of Wales, for his part, with connections so close in blood and by marriage among the victors in that struggle, could not but view with pain the disasters of a people to whom he was sincerely attached, and the downfall of a sovereign who was his intimate friend, and whose kindness he had, in his boyhood, experienced in the French capital, which was destined to be occupied by triumphant foes. In these painful circumstances the heir to the British throne did exactly what the case required. He subscribed liberally to a fund raised on behalf of the wounded and sick in the ranks of both combatants, and



he was one of the first to visit the Empress Eugénie when she arrived as an exile at Camden Place, Chislehurst, near London.

The later days of July, and the months of August and September, were spent by the Prince with his wife and family in Denmark (until the end of July) and in Scotland. The doings in the beautiful Highland region comprised, of course, grouse-shooting and deer-stalking from the Highland home, Abergeldie Castle, and from other centres. The Earl of Kinnoull, descended from George Hay of Kinfauns, who was a favourite of James the First, became Lord Chancellor of Scotland, and was created first Earl by Charles the First, was visited by the Prince and Princess at Dupplin Castle, near Perth, a seat famous for its beautiful old trees, and a library rich in rare and valuable editions of the classics. On September 27 the Prince and Princess went again to the Duke of Sutherland's splendid mansion, Dunrobin Castle, being met by the Duke at Bonar Bridge station, whence he and the Prince rode upon the engine for some distance on the way to Golspie. The royal visitor inspected the Sutherland Volunteers, and, taking luncheon with them at the Dunrobin Arms Hotel, expressed his view that the question of Volunteer efficiency is one of the greatest of the day, and urged on the corps the necessity of progressing towards that desired end. Then came Highland games and a Volunteer ball at the castle, at which both the Prince and his wife appeared. With the Duke and other gentlemen he went for shooting to Mr. Tennant's "lodge" at Achnashellach, on the new line of railway passing through charming scenery from Dingwall westwards for Skye. It was at this time that the Prince appointed Mr. (afterwards Sir Francis and Lord) Knollys to be his private secretary. On October 11 the royal party, which included the children, left Dunrobin Castle for Edinburgh, where the Prince was installed as patron of the Scottish Freemasons, and laid the foundation stone of the Royal Infirmary. During November the Princess and the children were in residence at Stafford House, the Duke of Sutherland's mansion in London, while improvements at Marlborough House were in progress. The Prince was meanwhile enjoying the

sport of shooting in Stirlingshire; with Lord Londesborough on the moors near Scarborough; at Windsor, and at Richmond Park. He also attended the races at Newmarket, and went to Sandringham for inspection of the progress made with his new residence and with other works on his estate. Ever on the move, he was also shooting at Lord Huntingfield's place, Heveningham Hall, in Suffolk, and at Merton Hall, near Thetford, with Lord Walsingham as his host; and entertaining, for sport on his own preserves, a large party at Sandringham. On December 2 there was a grand county ball at the Norfolk residence, attended by over 300 guests, in honour of the Princess's birthday, and, after visits of the Prince to Blenheim and Windsor, the whole party left Stafford House to spend Christmas at Sandringham. There were sledging parties on the snow, which lay deep on the ground. The Prince shot at Lord Suffield's (Gunton Park), and ended the year 1870 by dispatching large supplies of hares and pheasants for the in-patients at St. Bartholomew's Hospital (of which he was president), and at Charing Cross and Westminster Hospitals.

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## CHAPTER XV

### THE SHADOW OF DEATH

1871-1872

The year on which the Prince was now entering (1871) was destined to prove one of the most momentous in his career, to be paralleled only by one that quickly followed, a whole generation later, his accession to the throne. Postponing for the present, in due regard to order of time, the fateful crisis here indicated, we have to record that in January the occupations and enjoyments at Sandringham included shooting, sledge drives, and night skating on the lake, in which the Princess, accustomed to the ice from early youth, cut a right good figure. The scene was enlivened for a large party of guests by illuminations, fireworks, and the music of a band stationed on an island in the centre of the orna-

mental water. The royal pair made a visit to the Marquis of Cholmondeley's seat in Norfolk, Houghton Hall. This mansion is a vast, massive, gloomy edifice of stone in a park, and is notable historically as the residence of Sir Robert Walpole, the famous Prime Minister from 1721 to 1742. He was third son of Mr. Robert Walpole, M.P., of Houghton. In a former house the statesman was born, and at the existing abode, which he built, he died in retirement (as Earl of Orford) in 1745. The head of a Cabinet had more leisure in those days, when the House of Commons was in vacation, than is possible for him in the present time, and the manners of the age were different in some respects from those now prevailing among the aristocratic classes. Macaulay tells us, in one of his *Essays*, that "the noisy revelry of his (Walpole's) summer festivities at Houghton gave much scandal to grave people, and annually drove his kinsman and colleague, Lord Townshend, from the neighbouring mansion of Rainham".

At Sandringham there were also a dance for the servants, and a ball and grand supper to the tenant farmers and their families. The Prince went to Lord Fitzhardinge's (Berkeley Castle) in Gloucestershire, for the shooting of wild geese on the Severn, and sport with ducks in the decoy. In February he held a levee for the Queen at St. James's Palace, visited theatres, hunted with the Queen's staghounds, and stayed with her at Windsor. The conclusion of the war between France and Germany gave much satisfaction, we may be assured, to the friend of both countries.

In March came fox-hunting with the Duke of Grafton's hounds at Blisworth, in Northants; with Mr. Chaplin, in Lincolnshire; and as the guest of Sir Frederick Johnston at Melton Mowbray, in Leicestershire, the little town so gay in the winter season, so famous for the trade in pork pies, which had its origin in small pies cooked as a pocket luncheon for the mounted chasers of the red animal with the bushy tail. On March 29 the Prince was present at an event of great family interest, and some national note, the marriage, at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, of his sister, Princess Louise, to the Marquis of Lorne, eldest son of the Duke of Argyll. This matrimonial alliance was remarkable as the first



instance of a marriage between a scion of the royal house of Brunswick and a non-royal subject of the Crown, since the passing of the Royal Marriage Act of 1772, a statute which gave to the sovereign, within certain limits, the control of marriages of descendants of George the Second. The Princess, as is well known, was a lady of great artistic ability and taste; the bridegroom, heir of a nobleman of rare distinction in lineage, and in varied political, literary, and scientific ability, was a young man of the highest character and of excellent culture and accomplishments, who afterwards served with great credit, from 1878 to 1883, in the high post of Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, and became, in 1900, ninth Duke of Argyll. A few days previously the Prince visited, at Camden Place, Chislehurst, his old friend Louis Napoleon, ex-Emperor of the French, who, released from an honourable captivity at the Castle of Wilhelms-höhe, near Cassel, capital of Hesse-Cassel, had joined his wife and son in England. Early in April was born, at Sandringham, the sixth and last child (third son) of the Prince and Princess; the infant, christened Alexander John Charles Albert, lived but a day.

The opening of the Royal Albert Hall, on March 29, afforded a spectacle of much grandeur. The vast interior held about 8000 spectators of leading positions in society, and the music was performed by an orchestra of 1200 instrumental and vocal artistes conducted by Sir Michael Costa. The Prince of Wales, when the Queen, the Princess, and other royal personages had taken their places on the dais, read an address, in his capacity as President of the Provisional Committee, dwelling upon the connection of the completed edifice with the intended series of Annual International Exhibitions. The sovereign, after listening with great attention and evident interest, handed a suitable written answer to her son and heir; and said, in a voice clearly heard throughout the vast structure: "I wish to express my great admiration of this beautiful hall, and my earnest wishes for its complete success". The Bishop of London (Dr. Jackson), representing the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Tait), offered a prayer of dedication, and then

the Prince, after a few moments' conference with his mother, said: "The Queen declares this hall to be now opened", words received with a flourish of trumpets, loud cheers, the singing of the National Anthem, and the distant thunder of the Park guns. April was passed between Marlborough House and Sandringham, and on May 1 the Prince presided, on behalf of the Queen, at the Albert Hall, in opening the first of the yearly International Exhibitions of Fine Arts and Industry. Adjoining the hall were newly erected galleries, running along the eastern and western sides of the Horticultural Society's Gardens. These buildings were in the Italian style, of ornamental brick, terra cotta, and stone, 1100 feet in length on the ground floor and 600 feet in the upper part. The arcades, curving round towards the great conservatory, on the front overlooking the gardens, were very beautiful in style, with a trelliswork of iron bearing vines and creepers. A fine bright day gave the best effect to a state pageant. The gallery between the Albert Hall and the conservatory, and the latter building itself, were filled with about 3000 personages, many in official robes or military uniforms, including the Lord Mayor of London and many provincial mayors. At noon the Prince arrived in company with the popular Princess Mary of Cambridge (Duchess of Teck), the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Teck, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Prince Christian, and the Comte and Comtesse de Flandres, of Belgium. The royal party, driven in state carriages from Buckingham Palace, were received by the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851. Mr. Bruce (the Home Secretary) and several other members of Mr. Gladstone's cabinet were present. The proceedings opened with the singing of a psalm. Then a number of official persons were presented, and the Royal Commissioners made their report on the arrangements for the exhibition. The Prince then declared the opening, twice making audible proclamation, first from the dais on the north side of the conservatory, and then from the balcony overlooking the gardens. The usual salute of cannon, sound of trumpets, and cheers followed. A procession was then formed to walk through all the galleries,

and the matter ended with a grand vocal and instrumental concert in the Albert Hall, including special compositions from French, Italian, and German sources, and a new cantata written by Mr. (afterwards Sir Arthur) Sullivan; the whole performance being under the leadership of Sir Michael Costa.

On May 7 the Prince, supported by many artists and patrons of art, presided at a dinner in Freemasons' Hall in behalf of the Artists' Orphan Fund, established in 1866. The presence of members of the famous "artist corps" of volunteers gave the chairman occasion, in proposing the military toast, to refer to the success of the Volunteer movement. His toast for the fund was proposed in happy style. Sir Francis Grant, President, responded for the Royal Academy, and announced a donation of £1000 from that body. The long list of subscriptions, exceeding £12,000, included 100 guineas from the chairman. The next day found him at thoroughly congenial work as president, in the same hall, at the annual festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The assembly was thoroughly masonic, and the Prince wore, in addition to royal and military orders, the insignia of an English Past Grand Master. In proposing the chief toast, he alluded to the institution having been warmly supported by his great-uncle George the Fourth, when he was Prince of Wales; to the importance of sound education; and to the flourishing condition of the institution, which had, during the previous twelve months, admitted one hundred girls in place of the same number who had been sent forth, well instructed, to take their places in adult life. The subscription list included 100 guineas from the chairman and 25 guineas from the Princess, who had just become a "Patroness". We have so recently dealt with the Earlswood Asylum that it is only needful to mention the fact that, nine days later, the Prince presided, at the London Tavern, over the anniversary festival, and that his own contribution of 100 guineas was part of a subscription list reaching nearly £4200. On June 2 he was presiding, in Freemasons' Hall, at a festival for the benefit of a charity less conspicuous, but not less meritorious, than many others. The Homes for



Little Boys at Farningham in Kent, or "Cottage Homes", with the "Orphan Homes" at Swanley, provide for hundreds of young homeless lads, sorely in danger of becoming criminals, and train them for useful trades. No object could be nearer to the heart of the royal chairman, who had already, with his wife, visited the Farningham abodes, and laid the foundation stone of the new buildings. In a speech bearing evident marks of deep feeling, he asked: "What could be more dreadful than to see in the streets of London, from day to day, those wretched little children, who knew as little as we did how or where they could live, or who were their parents and natural protectors?" He described the excellent teaching which, by personal inspection, he had found to exist at Farningham—in arithmetic, geography, and other useful subjects, and the industrial training in making clothes, boots, mats, and other articles; in learning to be carpenters, house-painters, makers of paper bags, printers, laundrymen, bakers, gardeners, farm labourers, and other useful workers for themselves and the community. The royal contribution on this occasion was £150. We may here note, in connection with the Prince's work on this occasion, that, a few years later, in March 1878, he took the chair at a dinner at Willis's Rooms in aid of the Princess Mary's Homes, founded by his portly, handsome, and gracious relative, the Duchess of Teck, for the protection and training of little girls. In that institution "waifs and strays", the children chiefly of hardened criminals, are gathered in "families", residing in cottages in a country place, under the personal charge of a widow acting as "mother". The method adopted provides something like a home life for the little ones, and has an excellent tendency to soften the character. In 1887 the number of inmates was 234, with a revenue of about £4400. On June 21 the Prince and Princess were with the Queen when she opened the new St. Thomas's Hospital on the Albert Embankment, opposite the Houses of Parliament. Other functions of the same month, in which they bore a leading part, were a state ball at Buckingham Palace, and a garden party which they gave to many hundreds of guests at Chiswick.

On June 24 the Prince attended the annual banquet of the Trinity House, under the presidency of the Master, his brother the Duke of Edinburgh, who had returned to England. The Duke, in proposing the Prince's health, thanked him for having performed, during his absence, the festive duties of the Mastership, and, in respect of the Trinity House, he now reminded the Prince that he (the speaker) was still the eldest brother, though the Prince had now become an "Elder Brother" of the corporation. The Lord Chancellor (Lord Hatherley), in replying for "Her Majesty's Ministers", dwelt on the importance, in the interests of peace, of "maintaining in its full force and activity the great navy of England"; and Mr. Milner Gibson, a former President of the Board of Trade, asserted that the lights on the coast of the United Kingdom were equal, if not superior, to the lights which existed in any other country in the world.

The Prince presided, on June 28, in the hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, at the fifty-sixth anniversary festival of the Royal Caledonian Asylum, an institution founded in the memorable year 1815 for the purpose of supporting and educating the children of soldiers, sailors, and marines, being natives of Scotland, who have died or been disabled in the service of their country, and of indigent Scottish parents residing in London. The occasion was thus similar to one on which we have already seen the Prince in connection with the Scottish hospital. At the dinner under notice there was a like display of Scottish spirit. The royal chairman, wearing Highland costume, had around him an assemblage of distinguished guests, including his brother, Prince Arthur, the Duke of Cambridge, the Dukes of Buccleuch (president of the charity) and Richmond, the Marquis of Lorne, M.P., the Marquis of Huntly, and the Earls of Mar and Fife. The toast of the Prince's health was received with Highland honours, and the breaking of the glasses used, and Gaelic verses, giving time to the cheers, were recited. During the evening the children of the asylum, headed by their pipers, marched round the room. The royal chairman reminded his hearers that his grandfather, the Duke of Kent, had been pre-

sident of the institution from its foundation until his premature and lamented death, and that many of those who had been brought up in the establishment had afterwards distinguished themselves in the army, the navy, and the law.

In July the Prince was with his wife and children in Germany, returning for Goodwood races, while the Princess and family spent some weeks at Kissingen spa, the most popular watering-place in Bavaria. The next month was notable for a royal visit to Ireland in special connection with the annual meeting in Dublin of the Royal Agricultural Society, of which the Prince was president. In this visit he was accompanied by his brother Prince Arthur, and the Princess Louise and Marquis of Lorne. The party travelled from Holyhead in the *Victoria and Albert* and were received at Kingstown by the Lord-Lieutenant (Earl Spencer) and his wife, a lady so stately in person, so comely in features, that she was styled on her marriage "Spens(c)er's 'Faerie Queene'". At the Dublin station, in reply to an address from the civic authorities, the Prince of Wales said that he was glad to be once more on Ireland's shores". The welcome given by the population was most enthusiastic, and not the less so because the younger prince had for his godfather, and bore the name of, the great Anglo-Irish Duke of Wellington, and, as a second name in christening, that of the Irish saint. There was the usual display of decorations, and, at night, of illuminations, and the festivities and functions comprised a ball at the Mansion House, a state banquet at Dublin Castle, visits to the Agricultural and Horticultural shows, and to the Dublin "Zoo"; a review in Phoenix Park, and a great feast to about 450 guests—the annual dinner of the Agricultural Society—in the Exhibition Palace. Prince Arthur made a brief effective speech, expressing his "lasting interest in all that concerns the welfare of Ireland". The royal chairman, in proposing the "Lord-Lieutenant and Prosperity to Ireland", declared his own sincere wishes for the good of the country, and stated, from his own experience in Norfolk, the benefit derived by landlords, tenants, and labourers alike from the provision of suitable cottages for



the toilers on the land. This visit of royalty to the sister-country of England, Wales, and Scotland amply proved again the advantage that would accrue from the more frequent presence on Irish soil of members of the reigning dynasty, and especially from the permanent residence of some prince of the House. On August 4 the Prince of Wales was installed with great ceremony as Grand Patron of the Masonic Institution in Ireland. The Duke of Leinster, Grand Master of the Order in that country, presided; and invested the Prince with the collar, apron, and jewel as patron. In his speech the new member insisted on the excellence of the doctrine and principles of Freemasonry, on its absolute disregard of political differences, and its unswerving loyalty to the Crown.

A few days later the Prince joined his family at Kissingen, and, in the middle of August, he accompanied a French friend, the Prince de Ligne, on a visit to the battlefield of Sedan. At Donchery he saw the weaver's cottage where the Emperor Napoleon III and Bismarck had their brief interview after the battle, and the Château Bellevue, where the vanquished monarch and the King of Prussia met. After dinner at a hotel in Sedan, the suburb of Bazeilles, where some of the sharpest fighting took place, and other points of interest were inspected. Travelling incognito, the Prince had signed his name as "Renfrew" in the visitors' book at the Château Bellevue. From Sedan he and the Prince de Ligne proceeded to Metz and saw the scenes of conflict around that great fortress, a part of the prize of war for Germany. Towards the close of the month the Prince, with the Princess and children, travelled from Rumpenheim to Frankfort-on-Main, Wiesbaden, and Schwalbach, this last a favourite resort in a deep valley in Hesse-Nassau, where they received visits from the Princess's relatives—the King of Denmark and his daughter, and the King of Greece. Early the next month the Prince returned to London, and on September 9 he left Marlborough House to join the troops at the autumn military manœuvres in the country around Aldershot, in the direction of Farnham, and also in the Hampshire district

adjoining. These military exercises were on a large scale, and were conducted in presence of officers representing the United States and all the chief European powers. On September 4 about 13,000 men had marched out from Aldershot, with camp equipage, to Sandhurst Hills, and returned, after pitching tents and cooking food, covering in the day from 14 to 18 miles. On the following day the field artillery paraded in the Long Valley at Aldershot before being broken up for attachment to the three separate divisions of the army. There were fifteen batteries (ninety guns), a larger force of that arm than had been for many years assembled in this country. Several yeomanry regiments took part in the operations, and the whole body, under the general command of the Duke of Cambridge, made up about 36,000 men, including 23,000 "regulars", 8450 militia, 550 yeomanry-cavalry, and 4000 volunteers. The area of country included in the operations, under a recent Act providing compensation for any injury caused to private property, extended 15 miles northwards and southwards from Aldershot, above 9 miles east and 10 miles west. The Prince of Wales, commanding the 10th Hussars, had charge of the cavalry brigade of the 2nd Division. There were mimic battles of an exciting kind, very interesting to the spectators gathered at many points of view. On one occasion the brigade under the Prince had to make its way across bogs and creeks very trying both to horses and men. On September 21, at the fourth and last action, the Prince, heading his detachment of the 10th Hussars, was made prisoner. He refused to surrender at the summons of Sir Charles Staveley, commanding the "enemy". General Sir Hope Grant was appealed to, and he decided against the Prince; but, as soon as this sentence was pronounced, the royal captive turned his horse and galloped away, followed by some of his staff, and, being pursued, reached a place of safety.

Early in October the Princess and the children returned from Germany and went to Abergeldie with the head of the family. The usual sport was enjoyed on mountain and moor; the Queen was visited at Balmoral, and the Prince had good sport among

the partridges as the guest of the Marquis and Marchioness of Huntly at Aboyne Castle, an irregular structure rising with many turrets from among the woods. The Prince and Princess, via Perth and Stirling, went to visit the Duke of Buccleuch at Drumlanrig Castle in Dumfriesshire. This great pile, bearing the date 1689, is a square with about 145 feet of external walls, surmounted by turrets, capped and spired at the angles. The time taken in construction was ten years, and the cost to the first Duke of Queensberry (a precedent title of the Dukes of Buccleuch) was enormous. The chief gateway, looking northwards, is a massive Gothic archway, with a heavy iron gate and a very thick oaken door curiously panelled. The staircases enter the house from the inner court. The mansion was much defaced by the Highland rebels in 1745, as the ducal family had favoured the Hanoverian succession, and a portrait of William the Third, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, still bears marks of the violence then done. The gardens are beautifully laid out, and the park is large and charming.

We are now drawing close to the alarming and critical event which came in the earlier manhood of King Edward the Seventh. After a return to London from Scotland, and some shooting at Windsor, the Prince, accompanied by his wife, visited Lord Londesborough at his house in Scarborough, where a loyal demonstration was made, with the decoration and illumination of the town and bonfires on the hills. After some sport in shooting on his host's estate the royal pair returned, on November 4, to Marlborough House, and, two days later, were entertaining guests at Sandringham. The Prince's birthday, when he had completed thirty years of life, was duly celebrated by a county ball, a dinner to the tenantry, and bonfires on Sandringham Height. The day of festivity was quickly to be followed by a dreary period of suffering and extreme peril for the heir to the throne, and of the most painful anxiety for the royal family and the nation in every quarter of the globe.

It is idle to speculate on the remoter causes of the illness which the Prince had begun to feel before he left London for



Sandringham. The issue proved that, in some way, somewhere, he had contracted blood-poisoning from breathing noxious air, perhaps sewer gas. It should be stated, however, that Lord Chesterfield was with the Prince at Scarborough; that the latter had in attendance a groom named Blegge; and that both the groom and the peer were affected by the same illness, with a fatal result in each case. On November 20 the Prince was seriously unwell, and some alarm was caused by the announcement, three days later, that he would be prevented from paying a promised visit to the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh in consequence of a feverish attack. The patient grew worse day by day, the malady having been diagnosed as the terrible "typhoid". He was attended by Sir William Jenner, Sir James Paget, and Dr. Gull, three distinguished London practitioners, and by Dr. Lowe, of King's Lynn. On November 29 the matter was so serious that the Queen and Princess Alice hurried to Sandringham, and henceforth the Prince was devotedly nursed, in part by his sister, who happened to be in England on a visit, and must have been painfully reminded of the days when, ten years previously, she was in so close attendance on her father, who lay mortally stricken by the same disease. On December 1 there was a slight rally, but a week later there came so serious a relapse that all the royal family went to Sandringham, and for some days the life of the Prince was despaired of. The keenest public anxiety and alarm existed in those dark December days. The thoughts of all people in the British Isles and throughout the Empire were turned to the chamber in Norfolk, and with the anxious eagerness of deep and sincere feelings of sympathy and sorrow the daily reports were awaited. Day after day, when things were at the worst, each bulletin increased the fear already created. Morning after morning, crowds of men and women, ever shifting, ever pouring from the parks and streets and squares and from the busy centres of trade and traffic, gathered before the gates at Marlborough House, and outside the Mansion House, and at other points, as at post offices and police stations, where the condition of the royal patient, as certified by the doctors,

was publicly notified. Every word in the measured sentences was weighed and discussed with an interest in the depths of which all differences of party feeling and policy lay buried. All political parties, all social classes, were on one common ground of sympathy for the sufferer, his wife, his mother, all his kindred, and his devoted medical attendants. In the kindly feeling for the Princess, in the popular regard for the Prince, Tory, Whig, Liberal, Conservative, and Radical were as one. In effect, not only a wife and a sister, not only a mother who was also Queen, but eager millions of loyal subjects stood by the sufferer's bedside, invisible, unheard. Amid the gloom of November days, and the long December nights, a moral pall rested on the public heart, as the golden lamp of life burned dim at Sandringham, and the keen eye of love could scarcely mark a single gleam of remaining vitality in the heir to the throne. It was on Saturday, December 16, that a favourable turn came, and the Princess wrote a touching letter to the Vicar of Sandringham. "My husband being, thank God, somewhat better, I am coming to church. I must leave, I fear, before the service is concluded, that I may watch by his bedside. Can you not say a few words in prayer in the early part of the service, that I may join with you in prayer for my husband before I return to him?" Superstitious people had been heard to croak in allusion to the fatal 14th of December, 1861, but that dreaded day passed, and real hope had begun to be felt. When Christmas Day came, danger was virtually at an end, and the festivities of the season were celebrated by the nation with exceptional gladness and giving of thanks.

On December 29 the Queen's letter to the nation was, by her command, published by the Home Secretary. "Windsor Castle, December 26, 1871.—The Queen is very anxious to express her deep sense of the touching sympathy of the whole nation on the occasion of the alarming illness of her dear son, the Prince of Wales. The universal feeling shown by her people during those painful, terrible days, and the sympathy evinced by them with herself and her beloved daughter the Princess of

Wales, as well as the general joy at the improvement in the Prince of Wales's state, have made a deep and lasting impression on her heart, which can never be effaced. It was, indeed, nothing new to her, for the Queen had met with the same sympathy when, just ten years ago, a similar illness removed from her side the mainstay of her life, the best, wisest, and kindest of husbands. The Queen wishes to express, at the same time, on the part of the Princess of Wales, her feelings of heartfelt gratitude, for she has been as deeply touched as the Queen by the great and universal manifestation of loyalty and sympathy. The Queen cannot conclude without expressing her hope that her faithful subjects will continue their prayers to God for the complete recovery of her dear son to health and strength." We must here record incidents which illustrate the kindly feeling of both the Prince and his wife for the persons in their employment. The groom Blegge was visited by the royal lady, in spite of her own anxiety, on his deathbed, and words of comfort were by her uttered to his relatives. The Prince himself, when he recovered consciousness, made early enquiry about the condition of his servant, who had already succumbed. The earnest and skilful efforts of the chief physicians who attended the Prince were justly recognized, in the case of Sir William Jenner, Baronet, by a Knight Commandership of the Bath, and as regards Dr. Gull, by the conferring of a baronetcy.

The year 1872 thus opened most joyfully for the royal family and all loyal subjects of the Crown. During January, as addresses of congratulation from all parts of the world, addressed to the Queen and the Princess, came pouring in, the Prince was making progress, slow but sure, towards his normal state of health. At the end of the month he was taking walking exercise and being driven about by his wife in an open carriage and pair. He was daily seeing his officials concerning the royal household and estates, and he attended a special service at Sandringham church. At this time an Indian merchant sent the sum of £200 as a thankoffering from India "for the recovery of the



Prince, with the expression of desire that the money should be devoted to the most deserving institutions in London for the amelioration of the poor". A portion of the sum was accordingly sent to the London Fever Hospital. On February 6 a tribute of esteem, on which the Prince and Princess would assuredly set a high value, was paid to them by the clergy of Sandringham and the tenantry on the estate. A very respectful and affectionate address was presented, in which they expressed their hearty sympathy with the late anxiety of the Princess during her husband's dangerous illness, and their joy and gratitude to God for his restoration to health. This document was read to the Princess, in the presence of the Prince, by the Rev. W. Lake Onslow, the Vicar, and the written copy, finely illuminated on vellum, was handed to her by Mr. James Freeman, one of the tenants. It was enclosed in a beautiful casket of carved oak, hexagonal in shape. The Princess, in reply to Mr. Onslow, Mr. Freeman, and Mrs. Cresswell, who had brought to her this graceful offering, gave them heartfelt thanks, and said she would "earnestly strive to co-operate with her husband, as the landlord of Sandringham, to secure the health and comfort of the tenantry, so far as concerned the state of their dwellings in that village". The Prince was now taking exercise on horseback, and attending the regular services at the church, and, as we have seen, he was in a condition personally to receive addresses presented by various bodies of persons.

It was on Saturday, February 10, that the Prince and his wife left Sandringham for Windsor Castle. He had been kept at his country home for over three long months, almost wholly of suffering and weakness. The journey was one in which continuous enthusiasm was displayed. At 12.45 the royal pair started in an open carriage drawn by two ponies, the Princess taking the reins. From Wolferton station they went off in a special train, attended by General Sir William Knollys, Colonel Teesdale, the Hon. Mrs. W. Grey, and Mr. Francis Knollys. A large assemblage of persons witnessed their departure, and

at King's Lynn Junction, where five minutes were spent in change of engines for the main line, a crowd of several thousand people uttered loud cheers and waved hats and handkerchiefs as the train passed under a sort of triumphal arch of flags. The Mayor of Lynn, in attendance with the Corporation, and Mr. L. W. Jarvis, steward of the Prince's Norfolk property, were invited to the royal saloon, and shook hands with the Prince, congratulating him on his restoration to health. At every station there was a crowd of eager and joyful spectators. At Downham the train was stopped at the Prince's request, and he and the Princess had a brief conversation with their friend Mr. H. Villebois, ex-master of the West Norfolk Hunt. At Ely the train passed through the station at a moderate pace, amid a ringing cheer from the people of the fen country who thronged both platforms. The Prince was beginning to feel the effect of the exciting journey, and at Cambridge only one minute's stoppage was made, with a vast crowd on the platform, and deafening cheers that showed the utmost excitement of loyal feeling. In passing over the Cam, the royal travellers had a glimpse of the University crew preparing for the boat-race against Oxford in the spring. Windsor was reached at 4.45, and the party drove through the decorated town to the castle amid continuous cheers. The Prince had walked with a firm step from the train to the carriage, and seemed to show only slight signs of his recent severe illness. The royal pair remained at the castle until Monday, February 12, visiting, on Sunday, the Albert Mausoleum at Frogmore. On the next day they left for Osborne, to which they crossed from the Queen's private station on the Royal Clarence Victualling Yard at Gosport, by H.M. paddle yacht *Alberta*, Captain, the Prince of Leiningen. There they were met by Prince Leopold and by their own little sons Albert Victor and George. A few days of complete rest at the beautiful Isle of Wight royal residence greatly aided the complete restoration of the Prince.

The Prince, Princess, and children went to Marlborough House later in February, in order to share in the National

Thanksgiving which had been appointed to take place at St. Paul's Cathedral on February 27. This event, now to be described, was one of really national, and more than national, importance. The display of public feeling taught the British nation, the British Empire, and the world at large, how dear the heir to the throne was to his mother's people, both for his own sake and for hers. It made an end, for generations, of any thought of republicanism as a form of government in the British Isles to be substituted for constitutional monarchy. It proved the depth and strength of the combined feelings of religion and loyalty expressed in the Apostolic precepts: "Fear God; honour the King", which Britons, with all their faults, fully accept. The occasion which elicited these feelings brought about one of the most enthusiastic demonstrations of loyalty during the reign of Queen Victoria. The event was one of unique interest in British annals, when a sovereign proceeded in state array to the great Episcopal church due to the genius of Wren, in order to offer public thanks to the Almighty for the rescue of the heir to the throne from imminent death by one of the most fatal forms of disease. Never, since the great Tudor queen, had any ruler reigned over the realm with the same universal acceptance as Queen Victoria. Never since the day when Elizabeth, at the old Gothic St. Paul's, returned thanks for the great deliverance from the peril of Spanish conquest, had any approach to such a scene taken place in the capital. Before describing the chief incidents of the Thanksgiving Day of February, 1872, in London, we may note some previous events of the same class at the Cathedral. The use of St. Paul's, as the chief church of the capital city, for those special religious services in which the metropolis and the whole nation should join with the Sovereign, the Court, and Parliament, in thanking God for signal public benefits and mercies, is of very ancient date. It seems to have begun with the Plantagenet sovereigns of the House of Lancaster, on the accession of Henry the Fourth in 1399, and it was zealously observed by the Tudors. It was a sign of the hearty popular sympathy with the dynasty which had arisen along



with the increased political and social influence of the middle classes, as represented by the City of London and its trade guilds. Until the middle of the sixteenth century the King was himself a "Londoner", since he often dwelt in the Tower, or in Baynard's Castle, near Blackfriars, and hence the citizens, though the coronations took place at Westminster Abbey, expected to meet their ruler at St. Paul's on fit occasions. Queen Elizabeth was fond of visiting the city, though she did not reside within its walls, and in November, 1588, she went in a triumphal chariot, to return thanks at St. Paul's, as noted above, for the disastrous end of the Spanish Armada. The Stuart kings were never on the best of terms with the citizens, and seldom appeared in old St. Paul's, but Queen Anne, in 1702, went to the new cathedral to render thanks for Marlborough's capture of some French fortresses in the Netherlands, and for the victory over French and Spanish vessels in Vigo harbour gained by Sir George Rooke. Two years later the Queen was again there in thanksgiving for the splendid victory of Blenheim. In April, 1789, George the Third, after recovery from a very dangerous illness which had threatened the destruction of his mental faculties, appointed by Royal proclamation a day of general thanksgiving, and went to St. Paul's in company with Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and several other children, attended by both Houses of Parliament, the Judges, and other public personages. The great procession passed along from St. James's Palace, by way of Pall Mall and the Strand, "amid the loyal acclamations of a prodigious concourse of people", the streets being lined as far as Temple Bar by the brigade of Foot Guards (the "grenadier companies" of which were posted in the Cathedral) and patrolled by parties of Horse Guards. The day ended with splendid illuminations, according to the resources of that age, in all parts of the metropolis. Again, on December 19, 1797, the same sovereign, with the Queen, the whole of the royal family, the great officers of state, and members of both Houses, went in procession to St. Paul's to take part in the general thanksgiving for the great victories won by the British fleet under Sir John Jervis, off Cape St. Vincent, and by Admiral

Duncan off Camperdown. On that occasion a large number of sailors and marines joined in the pageant, bearing captured French, Spanish, and Dutch flags, which were placed with much ceremony upon the communion table at the Cathedral.

The great Christian temple was prepared for the occasion to which we now turn, by some hundreds of workmen—carpenters and upholsterers—who for over a fortnight were engaged in fitting up galleries and erecting tiers of benches for a congregation of about 13,000 persons. At the royal entrance, on the spacious lines of steps in front of the western portico, a large vestibule was provided by a temporary structure, and under the shelter of the portico itself a reception room, roofed with glass, was erected. Along the nave of the cathedral were tiers of seats, and galleries arose under the dome. As regards the preparations on the line of procession—Pall Mall to Fleet Street and Ludgate Hill, and then from St. Paul's to Holborn and by Oxford Street back to Buckingham Palace—it may be said that the decorations were remarkable for equality of richness and continued unvarying grandeur of display, in rich hangings, banners, lamps and devices, due to a complete design, arranged according to parishes and streets, which had been carefully followed out by previous combination of ideas and means. The day was dry, and in temperature mild for the time of year. It was just after noon when the procession left Buckingham Palace. Led by the carriages of the Speaker (Mr. John Evelyn Denison), the Lord Chancellor (Lord Hatherley), and the Commander-in-Chief (the Duke of Cambridge), the royal cortège consisted of nine carriages. The first seven, conveying the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, were closed. The eighth, open and drawn by four horses, held the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and the little Prince George of Wales (afterwards George V.). The ninth carriage, also open and drawn by six horses, was occupied by the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Albert Victor of Wales, and Princess Beatrice. In the Green Park came the first greeting on the route, when a gathering of 30,000 children sang the National Anthem. It is needless to attempt to describe

the reception accorded by the crowds who filled windows, door-steps, porticoes, balconies, roofs, and lofty and spacious stands and covered galleries. In front of the Charing Cross Hotel was a grand pavilion in white and gold, lined with scarlet. In the Strand and Fleet Street the procession passed under a canopy of standards, banners, streamers, and strings of flowers stretched across from house to house; and light Venetian masts, with countless pennons floating atop, stood bearing in their centres either trophies of colours or miniature shields. Special places were provided for boys representing the great public schools, and at St. Paul's was stationed, on the right of the line of procession, a Naval Brigade. This position of honour was due to the persistence, in behalf of the Navy, shown by Mr. (afterwards Viscount) Goschen, first Lord of the Admiralty. The arrangement was emphatically approved by *The Times* newspaper in the words: "They are our men; we do not often see them, but we love them and are proud of them".

As the procession passed along amid resounding continuous cheers, bands of children sang hymns at various points of the route, and the Prince, in particular, was greeted with frequent cries of "God bless you!" "God bless the Prince of Wales!" He was rather pale, but not thin, after his severe trial, and, serious in demeanour, and looking somewhat older than at his last appearance in public, he was evidently much moved by the warmth of the public affection displayed. The heir apparent wore the uniform of a general officer, with the collars of the Orders of the Garter and of the Bath. The Duke of Edinburgh displayed his naval full dress, Prince Arthur wore that of the Rifle Brigade, and Prince Leopold was in naval costume. The Queen was dressed in corded black silk, trimmed with miniver, and wore a black bonnet adorned with black-and-white feathers and white flowers. The Princess of Wales was in dark-blue satin with a polonaise of velvet, trimmed with fur, and wore a bonnet in the same material and hue set off with blue feathers. On the arrival at Temple Bar, where the Lord Mayor and Corporation joined the procession, preceding the Queen on horseback, the usual cere-





THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE, 1872: THE PROCESSION  
TO ST. PAUL'S

From a Drawing by Charles M. Sheldon



monies took place, except that the gates of the old portal, specially cleaned and adorned, were not closed. The sovereign, we may here note, showed a countenance which had for a time lost its mournful expression, and had some of the happy brightness of earlier days. The wife of the central object of the whole grand demonstration looked (how could she help looking?) radiantly joyous and beautiful.

We must now precede the advancing procession to St. Paul's, and notice the great and distinguished assemblage which, arriving in due time, and seated in perfect order, awaited the entry of the royal party. The congregation included 560 representatives of the Army and Navy, and over 300 Mayors and Provosts from all parts of the Kingdom. The House of Commons sent some hundreds of members, among whom were Mr. Gladstone, the Premier, and many members of his ministry, and his great opponent, Mr. Disraeli, with numbers of his leading supporters. Peers and peeresses attended in scores, and comprised 14 dukes, 8 duchesses, 16 marquises, and 22 marchionesses. The London School Board and many other public bodies, learned societies, and Non-conformists were conspicuously represented. The central space under the dome was filled by personages of the highest rank and position—the Legislature, the Diplomatic body, distinguished foreigners, legal dignitaries in their robes and wigs, the Lords-Lieutenants and Sheriffs of counties, and the representatives of the universities. The choir was reserved for the clergy, the screen between that part of the great edifice and the space below the dome being removed so that the whole gathering could see as well as hear the service in the choir. The whole effect, to a spectator's eye, of the magnificent assemblage was heightened by frequent gleams of bright sunshine through the southern windows as they fell on the military and official uniforms, the rich robes of state, the gorgeous Oriental garb of the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh and the Maharanee, and of Japanese envoys; on the rich and varied hues of ladies' attire, and on the gowns, surplices, hoods, and scarves of the clergy as they moved to and fro in the choir or under the dome.



The great clock had just struck one, afternoon. The scene was set, and the vast gathering awaited in silence the coming of the most exalted in the land. At that moment the royal procession reached the western entrance, where the Queen and her nearest and dearest were received by the Bishop of London and the Dean and Chapter. In the progress up the nave, the Sovereign had the Prince of Wales on her right, leaning on his arm, and with her left hand guided one of her grandchildren; the Princess of Wales, to the Queen's left, led another. The Lord Chamberlain conducted the party to the royal pew, if such it may be called, covered with crimson, enclosed with a brass railing, and raised two or three steps above a low platform which stood directly across the end of the nave opening into the central space under the dome, and thus immediately fronting the choir. To right and left a passage-way was left from the nave to the dome. In the royal enclosure the Queen was in the centre; to her right, the Prince of Wales, his son Albert Victor, the Duke of Edinburgh, and Prince Arthur; on her left, the Princess of Wales, her son Prince George, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and the Duke of Cambridge. The service began with the *Te Deum*, to music composed specially by Mr. (afterwards Sir John) Goss, the Cathedral organist, and sung by a choice choir of 250 voices from the best cathedral and chapel singers in the country. Then came some prayers and responses from the Liturgy, the Lord's Prayer, the usual petitions for the sovereign and the royal family, and a special form of thanksgiving. The most impressive point of the service was the brief silence following the special words in the General Thanksgiving: "Particularly to Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, who desires now to offer up his praises and thanksgivings for Thy late mercies vouchsafed to him". At the last of these words there was a perfect pause for a few moments, almost awful in its intensity, and it was here that the sublimity of the service culminated and reached its highest and most affecting expression.

The Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Tait) preached a sermon

on words from *Romans* xii. 5: "Members one of another", of which we may well quote a portion. "In those dark December days and nights of undefined dread, never to be forgotten, when, hour after hour, sounding in our anxious ears, in this city, the striking of a church clock, or the tolling of any passing bell, startled us with apprehension lest our worst fears were realized, all the people of the United Kingdom—the whole British race everywhere, all of every blood who own allegiance to our Queen—joined in prayer as one family, a family wide as the world, yet moved by one impulse, watching over one sickbed, yearning with one heart for one precious life. To-day we are gathered, at the very centre of the kingdom, in this church, the storehouse of ages of national associations, to present to God the thanksgiving which the nation offers, again as one family—'every one members one of another'." The preacher went on to show, in words of solemn and stately eloquence, how the idea of family union was carried out in the State and the Church—each of these societies being a direct institution of God, and that no nation can be truly happy, prosperous, or great where the sacredness of home and the sense of union and sympathy among all members of the same State is not fully realized. In dealing with the subject of affectionate reverence for the head of the State, he cried: "Loyalty—it is dying out amongst us—is it? An old-fashioned thing, fit only to be locked up with the regalia and other venerable monuments of antiquity, furnishing only a curious subject of interest for the speculations of the enlightened philosophers and politicians of this new age! Well, somehow, feelings supposed to be dead, but only, at the worst, slumbering, sprang forth. The love that was pent up in myriads of hearts burst all artificial barriers. . . . In a moment our sad anxiety, as soon as the reality of danger flashed upon us, stirred the memories of four-and-thirty years. The accession—the coronation—the marriage, that blessed union of loving and congenial souls—the regulating social influence felt through all the land for so many years—the baptisms of the nine children—the dark day of 1861, which smote the heart of England, as it tore an

august presence from our view—the gradual restoration, as the days of grief wore on—that spring morning on which all England rang with welcome to the young Princess who for us was leaving her northern home—the marriages of sons and daughters, and the births and baptisms of grandchildren. Just as in one of our own houses when death threatens, the whole history of the loved object we fear to lose comes back in the hours of waiting, so was the country stirred by a hundred touching memories when danger threatened the royal house. And God doubtless thus touched our hearts to deepen our loyalty, and make us better prize the thousand good things secured in a well-ordered State by love to the head of the State.” The preacher, dealing with a still more sacred theme, dilated on the divine institution of a Church, and declared that experience taught that nations, if such there be, which have no religion, have lost the only sure bond and stay of national life, and he concluded by an expression of thankfulness that all, in the recent crisis, rich and poor, learned to be united. “The poorest joined with the richest lately in prayer. If they are not here with us to-day, they are thanking God as we are. Such a day makes us feel truly that we are ‘members one of another’”. When the lessons of the recent past had been thus nobly enforced, the service ended with a special Thanksgiving Hymn, written by the Rev. S. J. Stone. When the Archbishop had pronounced the benediction, the notes of the National Anthem pealed out from the organ. Then the Queen came forward and bowed twice, the Prince of Wales also bowed, and the procession was re-formed and began to move down the nave. The Prince was now looking pale and tired, and, as he rose to take his place, the Princess went to his side, took his arm, and at the great western door led him very carefully down the steps to the carriage.

On the return from the Cathedral, the Queen and the Prince, in kindly regard for the multitudes desirous of seeing them, had resolved, in defiance of increased fatigue and nervous strain, to lengthen the route. The procession accordingly took the way of the Old Bailey, Holborn Viaduct, Holborn, and Oxford Street,



to the Marble Arch, and thence by the eastern side of Hyde Park to Piccadilly, and by Constitution Hill to Buckingham Palace. There the Queen, and the Prince and Princess of Wales, showed themselves for a moment on the balcony, and bowed in response to enthusiastic cheering. At night London was magnificently illuminated, St. Paul's Cathedral had the dome studded, as with gems, by three rows of coloured lights composed of ship lanterns fitted with most powerful lenses and visible at the distance of 3 miles. These were placed in position by a party of twelve seamen, the only men who could have reached some of the almost inaccessible positions on some of the cornices. From an opposite house, and from the top of a church, limelights lit up much of the western front. The great display was one of coloured fires—red from the dome, and in many hues from the area in front of the western portico, lighting up the whole façade with the most vivid and grand effect. Other points of special attraction were the triple arch at Regent Circus; Temple Bar; and the grand triumphal arch at the bottom of Ludgate Hill. Temple Bar was at this time just over two centuries old, having been erected in 1671 from the designs of Sir Christopher Wren. The grimy surface of its Portland-stone masonry had been cleansed to a light grey. The capitals of the Corinthian pillars were gilded, as also the cornucopias and other parts of the structure. The archway was draped in crimson and gold, and gas jets lit up the whole with brilliant effect. The Ludgate Hill central archway was 24 feet wide and 32 feet high, Gothic in form, and surmounted by a stately spire. It was not only in the capital that loyal demonstrations were made. The rejoicing was universal. Every city and town had its festivities, and its services of thanksgiving in church and chapel. Addresses were sent in, by hundreds, from all quarters, and the public feeling of delight found issue in gatherings, crowded meetings, bonfires, and illuminations. In India, in the colonies, and at many places all over the world where Britons live in any number, like demonstrations were made—it was, in fact, a thoroughly national and imperial display of attachment to the Throne. We conclude our account

of this most memorable incident in the life of King Edward the Seventh by recording that the Queen sent to Mr. Gladstone, as Premier, a letter, which was published, on March 1, in the *London Gazette*. Among its contents were these: "Words are too weak for the Queen to say how very deeply touched and gratified she has been by the immense enthusiasm and affection exhibited towards her dear son and herself, from the highest down to the lowest, on the long progress through the capital, and she would earnestly wish to convey her warmest and most heartfelt thanks to the whole nation for the demonstration of loyalty. . . . The remembrance of this day, and of the remarkable order maintained throughout, will for ever be affectionately cherished by the Queen and her family." On March 3, at the suggestion of Dean Stanley, the Prince and Princess, accompanied by the Crown Prince of Denmark, attended a private thanksgiving service at Westminster Abbey. The royal party were met at the great western door by the Dean and the Canons, and were conducted to seats on the Dean's right hand. Dr. Stanley preached from *Psalm cxxii* 1: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord". This was the last of a series of three sermons preached by him in connection with the illness of the Prince, and it was published at the Prince's request. The preacher dwelt mainly on the duties owed by the Throne to the people, and by the people to the Throne.











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